GOVERNMENT OF INDIA WATER RESOURCES LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1086 ANSWERED ON:30.07.2001 INDUS WATER TREATY VISHNU DATT

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is no clause in the Indus water treaty between India and Pakistan-1960 in regard to perennial flow of water in Indus River System;
- (b) if so, the measures taken with Pakistan to remove this lacuna and to revive dry and dying water source in this vast catchment covering Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether most of the devastating floods of North India originate from Nepal Himalayas;
- (e) if so, the measures contemplated by India with Nepal Government to take up reforestation and erosion control of Nepal Himalayas in an International agreement with that country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

- (a) The Indus Waters Treaty does not contain a clause in regard to the perennial flow of water in the Indus River System.
- (b) & (c) India is the upper riparian and the waters of the Indus system of rivers as specified in the Treaty are also available to it and therefore the question of taking up the issue of perennial flow of water in the Indus system of rivers with Pakistan does not arise.
- (d) Yes, Sir. Rivers flowing from Nepal cause heavy floods in certain parts of North India particularly in Eastern Uttar Pradesh and North Bihar.
- (e) & (f) Two major River Valley Projects namely Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project on River Mahakali (Sarda in India) and Sapta Kosi High Dam and Sun Kosi Projects on RiverKosi are under discussions between the Government of India and His Majesty Government of Nepal. As regards Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project, thepreparation of Joint Detailed Project Report(DPR) is in progress. The issue of preparation of such a report for Sapta Kosi and Sun Kosi Projects on river Kosi is also under discussions between the two Governments. These DPRs when prepared willhave Environmental impact Assessment studies which will take care of catchment area treatment inter alia including reforestation & erosion control measures.