GOVERNMENT OF INDIA WATER RESOURCES LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:828
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2004
JOINT SURVEY BY INDIA AND NEPAL ON FLOOD CONTROL
Modi Shri Sushil Kumar;Nikhil Kumar Shri ;Singh Shri Kirti Vardhan;Vijay Krishna Shri

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India and Nepal has agreed to conduct joint survey and find out the remedies to control flood in India;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) whether both countries have also examined the decisions taken by them on earlier such meetings;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to control damages due to river water from Nepal?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

- (a) and (b) Yes, sir. India and Nepal have agreed to take up field investigation and preparation of Joint Detailed Project Report for Sapta Kosi High Dam Multipurpose Project and Sun Kosi Storage cum Diversion Scheme (SKSKI) for which the Joint Project Office in Nepal has already been setup. The project interalia will have flood control benefits.
- (c), (d) and (e)The various issues relating to cooperation between India and Nepal in the field of Water Resources Development were discussed and reviewed in the 2nd meeting of Joint Committee on Water Resources (JCWR) held in October, 2004 and decided that a short-term strategy identifying the vulnerable areas along various rivers should be jointly worked out on priority to identify the steps that could be taken by both sides to mitigate the devastation caused by the floods for which a Joint Committee was also setup.

It was also decided that feasibility study of the Kamla and preliminary study on Bagmati Multipurpose Projects would be carried out by the Joint Project Office of SKSKI to ascertain the likely constraints in implementation of these projects so that these could be appropriately addressed. In addition, the JCWR also approved the Flood Forecasting Master Plan which interalia envisages increasing the number of hydrometric stations on the Nepalese side and also strengthening and up gradation of data transmission system in a phased manner for enhanced lead time of forecast in the downstream on the Indian side.

It has also been agreed by India and Nepal to tie the embankments on Lalbakeya, Bagmati, Kamla and Khando to high ground in Nepal with corresponding raising and strengthening of these emabankments in Bihar, for which Government of India is providing financial assistance. Financial assistance is also being provided to the State Governments for undertaking critical flood management and anti erosion works.