

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SPACE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3449  
ANSWERED ON:16.04.2008  
STUDIES BY NASA/ ISRO  
Kaushal Shri Raghuvir Singh

**Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether NASA has carried out any study on the sediment of an erstwhile river from Shivalik Hills to Gujarat via Rajasthan on the basis of pictures taken by them;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether ISRO has also carried out any such study; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the further steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE(SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):

- (a) No, Sir. ISRO is not aware of any study conducted by NASA on the sediments of an erstwhile river from Shivalik Hills to Gujarat via Rajasthan.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c)&(d) ISRO has carried out studies, using data from Indian satellites, to map the old river courses/palaeo-drainage networks in the sand covered Thar Desert region in North-Western parts of India. The studies have indicated the possibility of a major river having had its course through the river Ghaggar in the past. This channel also appears to have flown parallel to the river Indus closer to the North-Western Indian border, and finally joining the Rann of Kachchh.