GOVERNMENT OF INDIA WATER RESOURCES LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:240
ANSWERED ON:10.11.2010
WATER TREATY WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES
Shantha J

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of rivers on which treaties/agreements have been entered into with the neighbouring countries;
- (b) the nature of each of the treaty and agreement;
- (c) the area of disputes and the projects which are being affected by these disputes;
- (d) the action taken by the Government on each of the issue;
- (e) whether these treaties/agreements can be reviewed; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

in Nepal.

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA)

(a) & (b): The names of the rivers on which treaties/ agreements have been signed with neighbouring countries and the nature of the treaty / agreement are as under:

agreement has been signed with which signed

Sharda (Mahakali) Nepal Mahakali Treaty of 1996 which includes

River for which treaty/ Neighbouring country Nature of the Treaty / Agreement

Kosi Nepal Agreement of 1954 (revised in 1966) regarding construction of Kosi Barrage

Pancheshwar Multi-purpose project

Gandak Nepal Agreement of 1959 regarding construction of Gandak Barrage in Nepal

Ganga Bangladesh Indo-Bangladesh Treaty of 1996 regarding sharing of Ganga water at Farakka

Indus system of rivers Pakistan Indus Waters Treaty 1960 for the comprising the rivers Indus, most complete and satisfactory Jhelum, Chenab, Ravi, Beas, utilization of the waters of the Sutlej and their tributaries Indus system of rivers

- (c): Pakistan has raised dispute on the construction of Kishenganga HE Project on river Kishenganga, a tributary of river Jhelum, in Gurez valley in Bandipora District of Jammu & Kashmir.
- (d): India has taken action as per the provisions of the Indus Waters Treaty 1960. After Pakistan intimated the appointment of its two arbitrators initiating the proceedings for a Court of Arbitration, India has also appointed two arbitrators. Both the countries have also requested the persons concerned as specified in the Treaty to select three umpires for the Court of Arbitration. One of the persons requested namely the Secretary General of the United Nations has appointed one of the umpires namely the Chairman of the Court of Arbitration.

(e) & (f): The Mahakali Treaty of 1996 is valid for 75 years. It shall be reviewed by both the parties at 10 year interval or earlier as required by either party and make amendments, thereto, if necessary.

The Indo-Bangladesh Treaty of 1996 is valid for 30 years. There is a provision to review the Treaty after five years.

The provisions of the Indus Waters Treaty 1960 can be modified or terminated by another duly ratified treaty concluded for the purpose between the two Governments.