

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4397

ANSWERED ON:20.02.2014

RIVERS IN HIMALAYAS

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether China had assured India that it would ensure the protection and rational use of water resources in the trans Himalayan rivers that flow to India from the upper reaches of the Himalayas on the its side and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the two countries in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken/proposed to be taken in pursuance thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE AND WATER RESOURCES (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD)

(a) During Hon'ble Prime Minister's Visit to China in October 2013 both side agreed to further strengthen cooperation on trans-border rivers, cooperate through the existing Expert Level Mechanism, on provision of flood-season hydrological data and emergency management, and exchange views on other issues of mutual interest.

(b) Yes, Madam.

(c) India and China have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Provision of Hydrological Information in respect of three stations namely Nugesha, Yangcun and Nuxia on Brahmaputra river in flood season in 2008 which was renewed in 2013. Further, another MoU for the provision of similar data by China to India during the flood season in respect of one station namely Tsada on Sutlej river was signed in 2005 and was renewed in 2010. During Hon'ble Prime Minister's Visit to China in October 2013, both Governments also signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Strengthening Cooperation on Trans-border Rivers. The hydrological information received from Chinese side has been used for issuing advisory forecasts in the downstream areas in Indian Territory.

Government of India monitors all developments on the Brahmaputra River. As a lower riparian state India has conveyed its views and concerns to the Chinese authorities, including at the highest levels. India has urged China to ensure that the interests of downstream States are not harmed by any activities in upstream areas.