

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1830  
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2015  
PROTECTION OF WATER RESOURCES  
Patil Shri Shivaji Adhalrao

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether China has assured for the protection and rational use of water from the trans Himalayan rivers that flow in to India from the upper reaches of the Himalayas on the Chinese side;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any consensus has been reached between the two countries in this regard and agreement signed during the recent visit of official delegation from India; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION  
(PROF.SANWAR LAL JAT)

(a) to (d) Government of India carefully monitors all developments on the Brahmaputra River. As a lower riparian state with considerable established user rights to the waters of the River, India has conveyed its views and concerns to the Chinese authorities and has urged them to ensure that the interests of down- stream States are not harmed by any activities in ups- tream areas.

During the visit of Chinese President to India, in November, 2006, India and China agreed to set up an India-China Joint Expert Level Mechanism (ELM) on trans-border rivers. The ELM has held eight meetings, since 2007, the latest in June, 2014. Government takes up relevant issues relating to trans-border rivers, with the Chinese side through this Expert Level Mechanism.

During the Hon'ble Prime Minister's visit to China in October, 2013, both sides signed a separate "Memorandum of Understanding on Strengthening Cooperation on Trans-Border Rivers" on 23rd October 2013. Further, during Hon'ble Vice President's visit to China in June, 2014, both sides also signed an "Implementation Plan upon Provision of Hydrological Information of the Yarlung Zangbu/ Brahmaputra River in Flood Season by China to India" on 30th June, 2014.

The Joint Statement issued during the recent visit of Chinese President to India in September, 2014, inter-alia states that "The two sides will further strengthen cooperation through the Expert-Level Mechanisms on the provision of flood-season hydro- logical data and emergency management, and exchange views on other issues of mutual Interest".