

pose to take to resolve the water dispute between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) Karnataka Government has taken up the matter regarding release of energy with Tamil Nadu Government.

(b) In the meeting of the Chief Ministers of Cauvery Basin States held on 5.4.1990, the Chief Ministers of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu have agreed to hold further bilateral discussions at Madras on 19.4.1990 to be followed by a meeting of the Chief Ministers of the Cauvery Basin States on 20.4.1990.

Vitamin 'A' Deficiency in Rajasthan

4575. SHRI P.R.S. VENKATESAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Vitamin 'A' deficiency in Rajasthan amongst children has reached at an alarming stage;

(b) whether Government are aware of the studies made by Desert Medicine Research Centre or any other agency on the subject and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to set up a Technology Mission to deal with problems of vision and blindness?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NILAMANI ROUTHAY): (a) and (b). As per the finding of the Rapid Drought Survey carried out by Desert Medicine Research Centre (ICMR), Jodhpur in 1987, Vitamin 'A' deficiency was widely prevalent in Four Districts of Rajasthan, namely Barmer, Jodhpur, Jalore and Jaisalmer, in all age groups.

In Barmer, more than 50 per cent of all

children, over 30 per cent of School age children and over 50 per cent of adults had evidence of hypo-Vitaminosis A.

(c) There is a proposal in this regard.

[*Translation*]

Floods in North Bihar

4577. SHRI RAM SHARAN YADAV: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether North Bihar is in the grip of heavy floods;

(b) if so, the details of annual loss suffered thereby;

(c) whether Union Government have taken up the matter with Nepal for remedial measures in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the master plan formulated by the Central Water Commission in this regard is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The average loss in Bihar, mostly in north, is about Rs. 70 crores per year.

(c) and (d). India has proposed for consideration a dam on Kosi river in Nepal to provide amongst others flood control benefits in the Kosi valley.

(e) The time schedule for implementation of Master Plan formulated by the Ganga Flood Control Commission has not been received from the State Government.