

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1042
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2000
PANCHESWAR DAM
NIVEDITA MANE

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government of Nepal and the Government of India have signed a treaty to construct proposed Pancheswar Dam on the confluence of Mahakali and Saryu rivers at Indo-Nepal border;
- (b) if so, whether some NGOs have protested the construction of the dam;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the reaction of the Union Government and decision taken in this regard ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BHOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) Government of India and Government of Nepal have signed a treaty on Integrated Development of the Mahakali river including Sarda barrage, Tanakpur barrage and Pancheswar Project on 12.2.1996. The centrepiece of the treaty is Pancheswar Multipurpose project for which both countries are to prepare a joint Detailed Project Report (DPR). The proposed location of the Pancheswar dam is below the confluence of Sarju with Mahakali (Sarda in India). Joint Project office - Pancheswar Investigation (JPO-PI) has started functioning at Kathmandu w.e.f. 10.12.1999. JPO-PI is to prepare the joint Detailed Project Report under the overall supervision of Joint Group of Experts.

(b) Ministry of Water Resources is not aware of any protest by NGOs about construction of Pancheswar dam project.

(c) & (d) Does not arise.