

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:690
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2005
STORAGE OF WATER IN ALMATTI DAM
Shivanna Shri M

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has asked the Government of Karnataka to store only 509 metres of water in Almatti dam instead of 519.60 metres as an adhoc relief measure;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has received any response from the Government of Karnataka in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR HEAVY INDUSTRIES, PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV)

(a) to (c) Considering the request received from the State Government of Maharashtra, the continuing flood situation in Maharashtra, time required for completion of the studies and the trend of heavy monsoon on 25th August, 2005 the Union Minister of Water Resources suggested to the Chief Minister of Karnataka as a short-term measure that the water level at Almatti Dam be maintained at 509 metre upto 30th September, 2005. It was made clear to the Chief Minister of Karnataka that this should not be taken as a directive from the Union Water Resources Ministry but may be treated as a facilitating intervention between the two States, on humanitarian grounds, after a thorough understanding of the ground level reality and that too for a limited short-term period upto 30th September, 2005.

The Chief Minister of Karnataka in his reply dated 5.9.2005 has mentioned that the assumption that the submergence in Maharashtra territory, during recent flood, is also due to 'backwater pressure' from Almatti is erroneous. He has further mentioned that it would not be possible for them to agree to the suggestion made by the Union Water Resources Minister.