

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1451

ANSWERED ON:29.10.2008

TALKS WITH NEPAL ON KOSI DAM

Bhai Lal Shri ;Gangwar Shri Santosh Kumar;Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken up the matter of breach of Kosi Dam with the Government of Nepal;
- (b) if so,the reaction of the Nepalese Government thereto and the steps taken by the Government thereafter?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS(SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a)-(b) Yes,Sir.The matter has been taken up with the Government of Nepal, including at the highest political level during the recent visit of Prime Minister of Nepal to India from September 14-18,2008.The Government of Nepal has assured its full cooperation in resolving this problem.The matter was also discussed in the meeting of the Joint Commission on Water Resources (JCWR) held in Kathmandu,Nepal from September 29-October 1,2008. The JCWR has decided to empower the existing inter-governmental "Joint Committee on Kosi and Gandak Project" with financial and functional authority to identify the issues,formulate and approve annual action plan and oversee the implementation.

Several teams of experts from the Central and State Government of Bihar have also visited Nepal in recent months to determine the further course of action on the repair and restoration of the Kosi embankment.