

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1008

ANSWERED ON:25.11.2009

CONSTRUCTION OF DAM ON RIVER BRAHMAPUTRA BY CHINA

Bajwa Shri Partap Singh;Deo Shri Kalikesh Narayan Singh;Pandey Saroj;Raghavan Shri M. K.;Ram Shri Purnmasi;Rao Shri Nama Nageswara;Reddy Shri Anantha Venkatarami;Singh Shri Dushyant;Singh Shri Jagada Nand;Singh Shri Sushil Kumar;Tewari Shri Manish

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the China is reportedly constructing a dam across the river Brahmaputra on its side;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the findings of National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA) in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any study to examine and asses the impact of the proposed dam on the availability of water in North-Eastern States, agriculture and biodiversity of the country;
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof;
- (e) whether India has taken up this issue with the Chinese Government;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Chinese Government thereto;and
- (g) the measures taken or being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (DR. SHASHI THAROOR)

(a) to (g) Government has seen media reports to such effect. These reports have been taken up with the Chinese side, who have said that such reports are inconsistent with the facts. Government is not aware of any existing dam on the Brahmaputra River. Government keeps a constant watch on all developments having a bearing on India's interests and takes all necessary measures to protect them. Government takes up all relevant issues relating to trans-border rivers with the Chinese side through the Expert Level Mechanism established in 2006.