

(c) Reception Centres were opened at the airports by the Regional Passport Offices which disbursed financial assistance as subsistence and for meeting incidental expenditure on need basis.

Train passes were issued to them to enable them to travel to their hometowns. The concerned State Governments made arrangements for transport of the passengers from the railway stations to their residences. Where necessary, they also provided transit accommodation.

Customs facilities were liberally extended to all evacuees.

Evacuees were permitted facility of conversion of Kuwaiti Dinars equivalent to Rs. 10,000 on arrival.

For admission of the wards and children of the evacuees in the schools, requirement of Transfer Certificate and other documents was dispensed with.

Chukha Hydel Project in Bhutan

668. SHRI JAGADISH JANI Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have extended financial assistance for execution of Chukha Hydel Project in Bhutan;

(b) if so, the cost of the project and amount financed by Government to Bhutan for executing that Project;

(c) whether any Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between India and Bhutan thereon; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The cost of the project is Rs. 245.91 crores. The project has been financed by the Government of India in 60:40 grant cum loan ratio.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Relations with Sri Lanka

669. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have proposal under their consideration to establish good neighbourly relations with Sri Lanka;

(b) if so, the steps taken in recent months in that direction, and

(c) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) (a) to (c) It has always been the Government's policy to promote good-neighbourly relations with Sri Lanka. The Government is committed to the unity and territorial integrity of Sri Lanka and of a negotiated, peaceful settlement of the ethnic issue.

Construction of Itchampalli Project Land

670. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an area approximately at a distance of ten kilometres to the merging point of the sub-river Indravati where the river Godavari flows narrowly in between the Hillocks, is ideal for construction of Itchampalli Project Land as was proposed in the year 1945;

(b) whether representation dated 27-9-1990 in this regard has been received by the former Prime Minister;