

October, 2013, the two Governments signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Strengthening Cooperation on Trans-border Rivers. The Joint Statement issued during Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's visit to China in May, 2015 states, "The two sides will further strengthen cooperation through the Expert Level mechanism on the provision of flood-season hydrological data and emergency management and exchange views on other issues of mutual interest".

Tunnel through Seshachalam Hills

944. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice that in Andhra Pradesh a tunnel is being constructed through the Holy Seshachalam Hills at Tirupati to supply Handri Neeva Sujala Sravanthi (HNSS) water upto the Nagari ignoring Agama Shastras and objections of Tirumala Tirupati priests; and

(b) if so, whether Central Government would consider intervening in the matter and offering suitable advice to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI SANWAR LAL JAT): (a) and (b) Since Handri Neeva Sujala Sravanthi (HNSS) is purely a drinking water supply scheme, this Ministry is not involved in the techno-economic appraisal of the same.

The Krishna River Management Board (KRMB) has, however, informed that the proposed alignment of HNSS is not passing through the holy Seshachalam Hills.

Construction of small check dams in Chhattisgarh

945. SHRI RANVIJAY SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether in Sanna area specially in Jashpur and Sarguja districts of Chhattisgarh, lots of small rivers are there in which water flows throughout the year which goes waste;

(b) whether small check dams at a few distances can be built so that water could be stored and the water level could go up and help in water harvesting; and

(c) what action Government would take to store water which is going waste in the above districts of the State?