

[17 August, 2004]

RAJYA SABHA

Programme for flood-affected States

1466. SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any package programme for flood-affected States as in the case of package for drought-affected States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Although the State Governments are primarily responsible for undertaking immediate relief measures in the areas affected by floods, assistance is also provided by the Central Government under two schemes namely "Calamity Relief Fund" (CRF) and "National Calamity Contingency Fund" (NCCF). The CRF is provided in the ratio of 75% central share and 25% State share whereas the financial assistance from the NCCF is provided in accordance with a laid down procedure. Central assistance is also provided to the various states under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes to take up critical flood management & anti erosion works.

River Linking Project

1467. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the proposed River Linking Project in the country;

(b) the name of the States which favour this project and the names of those who are against it;

(c) whether the Task Force set up for the purpose has submitted its report, and

(d) if so, the salient features thereof and action likely to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Feasibility Report of 11 link projects out of 30 identified link projects have been completed. Field surveys and investigations for preparation of feasibility