

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.*585
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 8TH MAY, 2013/VAISAKHA 18,1935 (SAKA)

POTENTIAL DANGER OF LAKE FORMED ATOP HIMALAYAS

*585. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Remote Sensing Centre has observed that a huge lake has been formed atop Himalayas in Sikkim with a very high potential for it to burst and create devastating floods downstream; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the remedial action proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) to (b): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (B) TO THE RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 585 FOR 08.05.2013

(a) to (b): Yes, sir. Study of temporal satellite data of 1962 to 2008 has indicated that a moraine dammed lake is formed in the Sikkim Himalayas. From the satellite data, it is estimated that the Lake area has increased from 17.54 hectares in 1977 to 98.73 hectares in 2008. Further, 'earthen dam break' analysis and 'hydro-dynamic flood routing' study carried out for the above Lake have indicated that the lake outburst discharge does not seem to possess potential to cause any major flood in the downstream areas.
