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SARDAR SAROVAR PROJECT DECISIONS TAKEN IN THE MEETING OF CHIEF MINISTERS CONVENED BY PRIME MINISTER

Brief Record of Decisions Taken in the Meeting on Sardar Sarovar Project Convened by the Honourable Prime Minister on 15 July 1996 and 16 July 1996, New Delhi

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International Environmental Law Research Centre International Environment House Chemin de Balexert 7 1219 Châtelaine Geneva, Switzerland E-mail: info@ielrc.org A meeting of the Chief Ministers of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan was convened by the Prime Minister on 15.7.96 and 16.7.96 in New Delhi to discuss the issue of the height of Sardar Sarovar Dam. (...)

After hearing the views on the issue expressed by the chief ministers/ministers of the four states, Union Ministers of Welfare and Water Resources and the representatives of the Union Ministries of Water Resources and Power, it was decided by the Prime Minister as follows:

Construction of Sardar Sarovar Dam may continue, limiting the Full Reservoir level to 132.68m (436 feet) in the first instance. After operating the dam at the aforesaid height, the performance of the dam shall be watched for 5 years for taking up a review. Construction of the dam will proceed *pari passu* with the resettlement and rehabilitation of project affected persons as per terms of the Award and the R&R policies laid down by the states in this regard. The states shall ensure speedy and proper implementation of the R&R measures. The design of the dam will be such as to ensure minimum backwater effect, cost-effectiveness and safety of dam.

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