

Construction of Dams In Garhwal Himalayas

1150. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:
SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA:
SHRI SONTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR:
SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of major and medium dams being continued or constructed in the Garhwal Himalayas and the adjoining areas indicating separately their height, estimated cost, present stage, time schedule, the area of land to be submerged and the number of people to be affected thereby;

<i>Project</i>	<i>Estimated cost (Rs. crores)</i>	<i>Height of dam (m)</i>	<i>Families displaced (No.s)</i>	<i>Submergence (ha.)</i>	<i>Likely date of completion</i>
Tehri Dam on river Bhagirathi	1974	260.5	14639	5200	1996-97
Srinagar dam on river Alaknanda	372.3	85	32	340	1996-97

In addition it is also proposed to take up construction of 103.5 metre high Koteswar dam at a cost of displacement of 460 families.

The Government of Uttar Pradesh are also investigating 7 new major and medium storage projects. These are in the early stages of investigation and detailed project reports indicating heights of dams, attendant submergence of land and displacement of people are yet to be prepared.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Storage dams are necessary for full utilisation of the surplus waters of the river Ganga available during monsoons for meeting round the year requirement of irrigation, power and drinking water for a large region including cities like Delhi.

(b) whether the Government are aware of the reservations voiced against the construction of big dams in the area;

(c) If so, the reasons for constructing a number of big dams in the region;

(d) whether the Government propose to review the construction of those dams in view of the recent earthquake in the region and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to replace the big dams in such fringe areas by run-of the river dams and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Two dams as detailed below are under construction in the Garhwal region:-

(d) During techno-economic approval of projects all relevant factors are considered including adequacy of design to counter seismic forces. Only those projects are accepted that meet with the relevant standards and guidelines laid down for the purpose. The information from the recent earthquake has not so far brought out any features that are not already taken care of in the prescribed standards and codes of practices and has not indicated any need for review.

(e) Run of river schemes are not able to provide the full benefits as available from the storage schemes. Hence it is not proposed to replace the storage schemes by run of the river schemes, for utilising the regulated water released into the river channel from the storage schemes.