

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:619
ANSWERED ON:28.02.2000
ENCOURAGEMENT TO HYDRO ELECTRIC POWER PROJECTS
AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER;DINSHA J. PATEL

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Hydro-electric Power Projects are economical and preferred source of Power; and
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to develop the hydel potential and encourage Hydro-electric power projects in the country particularly in remote and hilly areas during the last five years?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER

(SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA)

(a) : Yes, Sir.

(b) : The Government of India has taken various steps for developing the hydro potential in the country specially located in the remote and hilly areas. A policy on Hydro Power Development had been announced in August, 1998 which addresses to the various issues that have led to the decline of share of hydro power in the last three decades and the remedial measures required to accelerate it. The steps taken by the Government inter-alia include taking up hydroelectric projects for construction by Central Public Sector Undertaking, increasing private investment through IPPs, provision of adequate budgetary support for on-going and new hydroelectric projects. As against the existing hydel capacity of 2425 MW under the Central Sector, Government has sanctioned six hydroelectric projects with a capacity of 1265 MW for commissioning during the 10th Five Year Plan. Advance action in respect of hydel projects involving 26261 MW capacity has also been initiated for capacity addition during the 11th Five Year Plan and beyond. The Government is also taking steps to accelerate the process of survey and investigation of the new hydroelectric sites with a view to create a shelf of projects which could be taken up for execution.