

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:380
ANSWERED ON:18.04.2002
HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER POTENTIAL
ANANDRAO ADSUL

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `North-East develops just 1% of hydro-electric power potential` appearing in the Economic Times, New Delhi dated February 18, 2002;
- (b) if so, whether the North-Eastern States do not utilize capacity full in the power sector; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH P. PRABHU)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) ~~OF~~ STARRED QUESTION NO. 380 TO BE ANSWERED IN TI LOK SABHA ON 18.04.2002 REGARDING HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER POTENTIAL.

(a) to (c) : The hydro-electric potential in the North-Eastern Region has been assessed at 58971 MW in terms of installed capacity. 1062 MW out of this potential has been developed so far and 387 MW is under execution. Two major hydroelectric projects in Arunachal Pradesh, namely, the Lower Subansiri Hydro Electric Project (2000 MW) and the Kameng Hydro Electric Project (600 MW) have been given Stage-II clearance for the pre-construction activities. The factors which have impeded the development of hydroelectric potential in the region include remote location of the projects, lack of infrastructure, law and order problems, environmental and forest clearance issues and financial constraints. The Central Power Sector Undertakings, namely, North Eastern Electric Power Corporation (NEEPCO) and National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) have initiated action to carry out survey and investigation and pre-construction activities on 14 hydro-electric schemes (including Lower Subansiri and Kameng) with a total capacity of 22795 MW in the North East Region under the 3-stage clearance procedure introduced by the Government for speedier development of hydro-electric projects in the Central Sector.

The Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has recently completed a Ranking Study of nearly 400 schemes covering all the river basins in the country. The Brahmaputra and other river basins in the North East account for 145 schemes which have been ranked in three categories in terms of their attractiveness. The first category consists of 41 schemes with an assessed potential of 5718 MW and the second category contains 86 schemes having an assessed potential of 41203 MW. The Ranking Study would enable the potential developers to undertake detailed survey and investigation and execution of the viable schemes in phased manner. CEA is holding discussions with the States to draw up an action plan for development of the identified schemes.