

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
POWER  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:326  
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2002  
RECOMMENDATION OF SAARC FOR REGIONAL POWER GRID  
GADDE RAMAMOCHAN;T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI

**Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the SAARC Technical Committee on Energy has recommended a Regional Power Grid connecting Bangladesh, India, Bhutan and Nepal;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard with the reasons for the same; and
- (c) the response of the Union Government in regard thereto?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF POWER ( SHRI ANANT G. GEETE )

(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. 326 TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 12.12.2002 REGARDING RECOMMENDATION OF SAARC FOR REGIONAL POWER GRID.

(a) to (c) : The SAARC Technical Committee on Energy has recommended that the matter be discussed further among the concerned member states. The relevant extract of the Report of the Technical Committee is annexed.

India has bilateral arrangements for exchange of electricity with Bhutan and Nepal. Though India has no such arrangements with Bangladesh it has indicated to Bangladesh its willingness to discuss the same. It has also indicated that bilateral arrangements for grid connectivity need to precede consideration of possible arrangements for cross country flow of electricity through the Indian grid through displacement. The creation and growth of cross border transmission links also depends on the identification of commercially viable electricity flows.

In the meeting of the SAARC Technical Committee on Energy, the Indian point of view stated above was conveyed.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN PARTS (a) TO (c) OF STATEMENT LAID IN REPLY TO STARRED QUESTION NO. 326 TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 12.12.2002 REGARDING RECOMMENDATION OF SAARC FOR REGIONAL POWER GRID.

Extracts from the Report of the First Meeting of the Technical Committee on Energy (Dhaka, 17-18 November, 2002)

Creation of a Regional Powergrid among India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan.

The delegation from India stated that the creation and growth of cross border transmission links depends on identification of commercially viable electricity flows from generating stations to load centres. Flows through the Indian grid could take place through displacement.

The meeting recommended that the matter be discussed further between the countries of India, Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh with a view to evolving suitable arrangements in this regard.