

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:443
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2005
TALA POWER PROJECT
Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the cost of the joint venture on ongoing Tala Hydrel Project, Bhutan has been revised by the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the present status of the project; and
- (d) the time by which it is likely to become operational?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED)

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. The cost of the Joint Venture Tala Hydroelectric Power Project in Bhutan has been revised by Government of India in September, 2005 from the earlier approved cost of Rs.3580 crore to Rs.4124 crore. In this amount, 60% is by way of grant by Government of India to Royal Government of Bhutan and 40% is a loan to Bhutan bearing interest of 9% per annum. The loan will be repaid in 12 equal instalments by Bhutan. The cost of the project was increased due to difficult geological structures, change in designs of main features like the Headrace Tunnel (HRT), Pressure and Surge Shafts etc.

(c) & (d) : The project is in its final stages of completion and is expected to be operational by June, 2006.