

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:188
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2006
ENERGY FROM NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES
Jindal Shri Naveen;Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has approached South Asian Nations, such as Bhutan, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Nepal for co-operation in meeting the energy demand of the country;
- (b) if so, whether any agreement has been signed with these countries; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDN)

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

STATEMENT

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 188 TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 04.08.2006 REGARDING ENERGY FROM NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES.

(a) to (c) : Recently, an agreement has been signed with Bhutan for cooperation in the field of Hydroelectric Power. India has agreed to a minimum import of 5000 MW of electricity from Bhutan by the year 2020.

At present India purchases power from Chukha and Kurichu Hydroelectric Projects of Bhutan with a total installed capacity of 396 MW. 1020 MW of Tala Hydroelectric Project is scheduled for completion this year for supply of power to India.

Bilateral exchange of power between India and Nepal is taking place since 1971, between contiguous areas on the border of India and Nepal.

A Plan of Action for cooperation in energy sector has been adopted by the Energy Ministers of BIMSTEC countries (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multisectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation, which comprises of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand) in October, 2005. Energy cooperation is envisaged mainly in the areas of Power Exchange and Grid Connectivity, Gas Pipeline, Development of Hydro Potential, Promotion of Non-conventional Sources of Energy and Energy Efficiency.

Energy Ministers of SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) member countries have also agreed for regional cooperation in energy in October, 2005 to achieve the objective of creating an Energy Ring in South Asia.