

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2195
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2008
SETTING UP OF HYDRO POWER PROJECTS IN BHUTAN
Rana Shri Gurjeet Singh

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a huge potential of hydro power generation in Bhutan;
- (b) if so, the details of hydro power projects being executed by the Government in collaboration with the Government of Bhutan; and
- (c) the estimated cost, the power generation capacity, the completion date and the per unit power purchase agreement of each power project in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE)

(a) : Yes Sir, Bhutan's hydropower potential is estimated to be in the region of 30,000 megawatts (MW) of which about 16,000 to 20,000 MW is estimated to be technically feasible.

(b) & (c) : Cooperation between India and Bhutan has been highly successful and to the mutual benefit of both countries. Surplus power generated from the hydropower projects is exported to India. Under a bilateral Agreement signed in July, 2006, Government of India has agreed to purchase 5000 MW of power from Bhutan by the year 2020.

The details regarding Government of India assisted hydropower projects in Bhutan are as follow:-

Name of Project	Year of Commissioning	Installed Capacity (MW)	Total cost (Rs. Crores)	Power sale tariff (Rs./Unit)
Chukha	1986	4x84=336	247	2.00
Kurichhu	2001	4x15 = 60	560	1.80
Tala	2007	6x170=1020	4327	1.80
Punatsangchhu	-IUnder Construction	6x182.5=1095	3514.08	Not firmed up (Estimated cost only)