GOVERNMENT OF INDIA EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:565
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2010
CONSTRUCTION OF DAM ON BRAHMAPUTRA RIVER
Lal Shri Kirodi ;Toppo Shri Joseph

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether China has admitted the construction of a dam on Brahmaputra river in Tibet;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) the adverse impact of construction of the said dam on the North-Eastern States of the country;
- (d) whether the Government has registered any objection to China on the said dam;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of China thereto; and
- (f) the remedial measures taken or being taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA)

(a) to (f): This matter has been taken up with the Chinese side on many occasions. During the recent visit of External Affairs Minister to China, the Chinese Foreign Minister conveyed that China has always taken a responsible attitude on the issue of trans-border rivers. He further clarified that the planned construction at Zangmu in the Tibet Autonomous Region of China is a hydro-power project and that the power station will not store water and will not regulate the volume of water, and therefore, will not have an adverse impact on the downstream areas of the Brahmaputra. Government keeps a constant watch on all developments having a bearing on India's interests and takes all necessary measures to protect them.