

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2151

ANSWERED ON:06.08.2010

HYDRO POWER PROJECTS

Chauhan Shri Sanjay Singh;Kodikunnil Shri Suresh;Singh Shri Bhola;Swamygowda Shri N Cheluvarya Swamy ;Tandon Annu

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the hydro power projects taken up by the Government during the last three years are facing some roadblocks in the construction works;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the hydro power projects in the country on which the construction work has been stopped, Project-wise and State-wise;
- (d) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard;
- (e) whether the Government has formulated any uniform policy for sanctioning of the hydro power projects in the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof along with the other steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to augment the hydro power generation in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER(SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI)

(a) & (b) : In the last three years, two new projects viz. Kishanganga Hydro- electric Project (330 MW) by NHPC Limited in State of Jammu and Kashmir and Pare Hydro-electric Project(110 MW) by NEEPCO in Arunachal Pradesh have been taken up for construction in Central Sector. Barring law and order problems / agitation at the local level, no major road blocks in implementation of these projects have been reported by implementation agencies to the Government.

(c) & (d) : On account of agitation by environmental activists, construction work of only one ongoing hydro-electric project namely Loharinag Pala Hydro- electric Project (600 MW) in Uttarakhand of NTPC in the Central Sector has been suspended by the Government since February, 2009. As per the direction of the Hon'ble High Court of Uttarakhand at Nainital, this issue has been referred to the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) for a final decision.

(e) & (f) : In exercise of the powers under Section 8 (1) of the Electricity Act, 2003, the Government has fixed the following limits of capital expenditure for hydro electric schemes requiring CEA's concurrence by notification dated 18.04.2006:

i). Rs. 2500 Crores, provided that –

a) the scheme is included in National Electric Plan (NEP) as notified by CEA and conforms to the capacity and type.

b) the site for setting up the hydro generating station has been allocated through the transparent process of bidding in accordance with the guidelines issued by Central Government.

ii). Rs. 500 Crores for any other scheme not covered by para (a) and (b) of above.

The Government has adopted multi-pronged strategy to harness the hydro potential in the country. Some of the policy measures and initiatives taken by the Government are finalisation of investor-friendly National Hydro Policy, 2008, liberal National Rehabilitation & Resettlement Policy, National Water Policy, 50,000 MW Hydro-Electric initiative, 3-stage clearance procedure, etc.