

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:342
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2010
SARDAR SAROVAR PROJECT
Das Gupta Shri Gurudas

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has recently set up another high level Advisory Committee on the Sardar Sarovar Project to look into the environmental issues;
- (b) if so, the composition and terms of reference of this Committee;
- (c) the rationale behind setting up another Advisory Committee on the said project; and
- (d) the time by which the Advisory Committee is likely to submit its report?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.342 to be answered on Wednesday, the 18th August, 2010 on "Sardar Sarovar Project" by Shri Gurudas Dasgupta.

(a) & (b) The composition and Terms of Reference of the High Level Advisory Committee on the Sardar Sarovar Project are given below:-

Composition of the Committee

(i) Prof. Yoginder K. Alagh
Chancellor, Nagaland University
Chairman, Institute of Rural Management Anand
Vice-Chairman, Sardar Patel Institute of Economics & Social Research
45, Surdhara, Near Door Darshan, Thaltej, Ahmedabad.

(ii) Prof. S. Parasuraman
Tata Institute for Social Sciences, Mumbai

(iii) Dr. R.B. Lal
Director, Indian Institute of Forest, Bhopal

(iv) Shri V.K. Jyothi
Executive Member, Narmada Control Authority, Indore

(v) Chief Conservator of Forests, Regional Office
(Ministry of Environment & Forests),
Bhopal - Member Secretary

The Committee may co-opt Expert Member(s) in relevant fields, as deemed necessary.
Terms of Reference

The Committee will:

- (i) Examine the adequacy of plans and the schedule for implementation to ensure pari-passu compliance of environmental safeguard measures.
 - (ii) Undertake, site visits, as required, for the inspection, review and ground truthing of implemented action plans.
 - (iii) Interact with the State Governments, civil society and other concerned stakeholders for the steps required to be taken for the implementation of the plans in a time bound manner.
 - (iv) Recommend indicators and mechanism for long term monitoring of the implementation of action plans.
 - (v) Undertake any other task which it feels is in furtherance of the interests of the purposes for which it is formed.
- (c) During the latest review of the status undertaken in the 48th meeting of the Environment Sub Group (ESG) of Narmada Control Authority, held on 1st April, 2010, it was observed that there are certain gaps and non-compliances in the implementation of the Environmental Action Plan by the party States. Keeping in view the national importance of the project on one hand and the possible environmental consequences on the other, the High Level Advisory Committee was constituted.
- (d) The tenure of the Committee is for three years.