

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4740
ANSWERED ON:25.08.2010
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF DAMS
Ramasubbu Shri S.

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

- (a) whether the proposed construction of large number of dams by various State Governments in the country would have an adverse impact on the environment;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government has conducted any study in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details along with the remedial measures taken thereon; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefore?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) The appraisal of River Valley project as are covered under the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 and its amendment, 2009, is taken up in the manner elaborated therein. The construction of dams, which fall under the provision of the said Notification; requires the preparation of an EIA report, which includes environmental management plans (EMP) to mitigate the adverse impact if any of various activities. The EIA report is appraised by the Expert Appraisal Committee for giving appropriate recommendations about the project.

(c) (d) & (e) A Carrying Capacity study of Teesta Basin in Sikkim in respect of construction of various hydroelectric projects on Teesta river in Sikkim, was conducted through the Centre for Inter-disciplinary Studies of Mountain and Hill Environment, University of Delhi. The study report brought out that the areas around and above Chungthang are ecologically and geologically sensitive and need careful handling. The State Government of Sikkim has been informed about the findings.