

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:420

ANSWERED ON:08.12.2010

INDO-NEPAL MEET ON WATER RESOURCES

Majumdar Shri Prasanta Kumar; Roy Shri Nripendra Nath

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:**

- (a) the details of the pending water projects involving India and Nepal, as on date;
- (b) the reasons for the pendency in each case;
- (c) whether a high level meeting of the officers of both the countries was held recently;
- (d) if so, the outcome of the meeting;
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to resolve all outstanding issues relating to management of water resources; and
- (f) the time by which the pending projects are likely to be executed?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

(a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) IN RESPECT OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 420 TO BE ANSWERED ON 8.12.2010 REGARDING "INDO-NEPAL MEET ON MANAGEMENT OF WATER RESOURCES" BY SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR AND SHRI NRIPENDRA NATH ROY:

(a) Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project on river Sharda (known as Mahakali in Nepal), Saptakosi High Dam Multipurpose Project including SunKosi Storage-cum-Diversion Scheme on river Kosi (Nepal) and West Rapti (Naumure) Multipurpose Project on river West Rapti (Nepal) are under discussion with the Government of Nepal.

(b) The required field investigations for the Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project having an installed capacity of 5600 MW, have been completed. However, substantive issues such as sharing of cost and benefits, location of re-regulating structure, stage based implementation, etc. have not been finalized.

A Joint Project Office (JPO-SKSKI) was set up in Nepal in August, 2004 to take up field investigations and preparation of Joint DPR of Saptakosi High Dam Multipurpose Project and SunKosi Storage cum Diversion Scheme. However, the progress of the field investigation works is very slow due to security problems.

On the request of Government of Nepal, Central Water Commission has carried out the Pre-feasibility Study of West Rapti (Naumure) Multipurpose Project and the study report has been sent to Government of Nepal.

(c) & (d) During the 3rd meeting of Joint Committee on Water Resources (JCWR) headed by Secretaries of Water Resources from India and Nepal, held from 29.09.08 – 01-10-08 at Kathmandu (Nepal), it had been decided to set up a Pancheshwar Development Authority (PDA) at the earliest in accordance with the Mahakali Treaty for the development, execution and operation of the Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project. During the 5th meeting of JCWR held on 20-22 November, 2009 at Pokhara (Nepal), the Terms of Reference of PDA were jointly agreed upon.

In order to undertake the Joint Investigations of Saptakosi High Dam Multipurpose Project and Sun Kosi Storage cum Diversion Scheme; a Joint Project Office (JPO-SKSKI) was set up in Nepal in August, 2004 to take up field investigations and to prepare Joint DPR. It was to complete the works by February, 2007. However, because of uncertain field situations, the field investigations got delayed. Field works of Saptakosi High Dam Multipurpose Project continues to be suspended. The tenure of JPO-SKSKI was extended further to August, 2010. However, the field works at Saptakosi Dam site have still not resumed. On the recommendation of 9th meeting of Joint Team of Experts headed by Member (RM), Central Water Commission held on 1-2 August, 2010 at Kathmandu (Nepal), action has been initiated for further continuance of JPO-SKSKI beyond August, 2010.

As regards the West Rapti (Naumure) Multi Purpose Project, no further response has been received from the Government of Nepal on the Pre-feasibility report submitted by the Central Water Commission.

(e) A three tier mechanism consisting of a Joint Ministerial Commission on Water Resources (JMCWR) to be co-chaired by Ministers of Water Resources of India and Nepal, a Joint Committee on Water Resources (JCWR) at the level of Secretaries of Water Resources of India and Nepal and a Joint Standing Technical Committee (JSTC) have been set up to discuss all outstanding issues relating to the management of Water Resources.

(f) The time-frame for implementation of the aforesaid Projects would depend on the field situation and the time taken for completion of surveys.