

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
POWER  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5209  
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2010  
HYDEL POWER PROJECT ON ALAKNANDA  
Choudhary Shri Bhudeo;Singh Shri Radha Mohan

**Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the citizens interests have been ignored for the hydel power project over the river Alaknanda;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the amendments likely to be made in the said project in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any study to assess the extent of damage likely to be caused to the villages due to the said project;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (e): Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has so far accorded concurrence to 8 nos. of hydro electric projects with an aggregate installed capacity of 2584 MW on river Alaknanda and its tributaries. Details are given at Annex. The statutory clearances esp. environmental clearance is given only after carrying out detailed Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) studies. EIA studies are quite comprehensive and these include rehabilitation & resettlement of displaced persons due to submergence, impact on flora and fauna, impact on bio-diversity of area, impact on ecology, etc., thus taking care of citizens interest also.

The main concern affecting the development of hydro-electric projects in Uttarakhand is their ecological impact on river Ganga. To assess the feasibility of the hydro-electric projects that are proposed on the major tributaries of river Ganga namely rivers Bhagirathi and Alaknanda, Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF) has assigned Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun to undertake a study for cumulative environment impact of various hydro electric projects particularly on riverine ecosystem and land and aquatic biodiversity and Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee to undertake a comprehensive study on `Assessment of cumulative impact of hydro electric projects in Alaknanda-Bhagirathi basin up to Devprayag`.