

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2662
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2011
HYDRO POWER PROJECTS
Rama Devi Smt. ;Singh Shri Ijyaraj

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether every aspect of Hydro Power Projects is not considered appropriately while formulating the project due to which these are not completed on time;
- (b) if so, the reasons for not paying proper attention towards environmental aspect, acquisition of land, required funds and likely possibilities of agitations;
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (d) the remedial steps taken for improving the situation in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER(SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL)

(a) to (d): Construction of Hydro-electric Project (HEP) is taken up only after it achieves financial closure and has tied-up various inputs, clearances and linkages. Before according concurrence to the Detailed Project Report (DPR) of the project, Central Electricity Authority (CEA) examines all the technical aspects. Similarly, Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) accords environment and forest clearances based on Environment Impact assessment (EIA) Studies/Environment Management Plan (EMP), wherein issues concerning the environmental impact, Rehabilitation & Resettlement (R&R), etc. are adequately covered. The bankers/lending institutions also satisfy themselves about the commercial viability of the project including requirements of funds, credentials of the developer, etc. before sanctioning loans for the project.

However, some of the issues like geological surprises, local agitation and other law and order related problems cannot be foreseen in advance, leading to delay in commissioning of some of the affected projects. Whenever, such unforeseen problems are reported by the project authorities in the Central, State or Private Sector, immediate remedial steps are taken as per the requirement of each project on a case to case basis e.g. for sorting out law and order problem, the issue is immediately brought to the notice of the State law enforcing agencies. Moreover, all the ongoing projects are reviewed intensively on a periodic basis in CEA, Ministry of Power and Task Force on Hydro Project Development.