

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3152
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2011
INVESTMENTS IN HYDEL PROJECTS OF NEPAL
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Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian companies that have invested in hydel projects in Nepal are finding it difficult to export the power so generated to India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether this is also restricting India's plans to put in place the proposed SAARC grid;
- (d) if so, whether the Government has taken up the issue with the Government of Nepal; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the present status of transmission links between India and Nepal?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) : Ministry of External Affairs has informed that twenty eight Indian companies are involved in development of hydro projects in Nepal who have been issued survey licenses by Government of Nepal. Since no company has started power generation as yet, export of power to India does not arise at this stage.

(c) : SAARC grid is at conceptual stage presently. However, cross- border connectivity with Bhutan and Nepal exist for exchange of power. More interconnections with these two countries are at planning/implementation stage. Further, high voltage direct current (HVDC) back-to-back interconnection between Behrampur (India) and Bheramara (Bangladesh) is under implementation. Feasibility study for HVDC interconnection between India and Sri-Lanka is under preparation.

(d) & (e) : Presently, India-Nepal have number of radial inter-connections at 11/33 and 132 kV level through which 50-60 MW power is being exchanged. For exchange of power on a larger scale from the electricity markets of India and Nepal, Dhalkebar-Muzaffarpur 400 kV D/C transmission line (to be initially charged at 220 kV) has been planned through Joint Venture companies, one for the Indian portion and the other for the Nepalese portion.