

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4997

ANSWERED ON:07.05.2012

CLEARANCES TO DAMS ON RIVER

Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash;Shekhar Shri Neeraj;Singh Shri Yashvir

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

(a) whether the report submitted by Wildlife Institute of India (WII) has recommended the abandoning of the project of setting up dams on the Alaknanda and Bhagirathi rivers in the State of the Uttarakhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) to (c) The report submitted by the Wildlife Institute of India recommended certain additional regulating measures to compensate or mitigate direct impacts and indirect impacts of 17 already commissioned hydro power projects and 14 under-construction hydro power projects in Alaknanda and Bhagirathi basins. The report submitted by the Wildlife Institute of India has however, reported that out of the total of 39 additional proposed hydro power projects considered in the Cumulative Environmental Impact Assessment (CEIA) in Alaknanda and Bhagirathi Basins, 24 projects may significantly impact the biodiversity values in the two sub-basins. The said report is presently under examination of the Central Government.