GOVERNMENT OF INDIA POWER LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5786
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2012
SUBANSIRI LOWER HYDRO ELECTRIC POWER PROJECT
Ajmal Shri Badruddin

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether anti-dam agitation has stalled work on the proposed Subansiri Lower Hydro-Electric Power Project in Assam;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government has received any suggestions from the State Government of Assam regarding construction of the Dam;
- (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 K.C. VENUGOPAL)

- (a): Yes, Madam.
- (b) to (e): Earlier, as desired by Government of Assam (GoA), NHPC constituted an Expert Group consisting of experts from IIT, Guwahati, Gauhati University and Dibrugarh University to study the downstream Impact of Lower Subansiri HEP (2000 MW). The Expert Group submitted its final report on 03.03.2011. Meanwhile, on the concerns expressed by GoA regarding structural safety of the Dam, Planning Commission has appointed a two Member Technical Experts Committee to study the Technical Report of the Experts Group. Further, as desired by GoA, a Joint Steering Committee has been constituted by NHPC on 19.04.2011 to suggest feasible and practicable remedial measures in the downstream areas with reference to Experts Group's recommendations on downstream impact of Subansiri Lower Dam (Part-II) along with issues related to flood, bank erosion and sediment control. Also, as recommended by Inter-Ministerial Group headed by Secretary (Water Resources), a Cumulative Environment Impact Assessment Study of Lohit Sub-basin has recently been completed by WAPCOS and studies for Subansiri and Siang sub-basins have been commissioned by Central Water Commission.