

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3402
ANSWERED ON:31.08.2012
HYDRO POWER PROJECTS
Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether certain Hydro Power Projects in the country particularly in Gujarat are violating prescribed safeguards;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a group of eminent activists, intellectuals and environmentalists has written to Asian Development Bank (ADB) to stop funding to such hydro power projects which are completely ignoring ecological impacts; and
- (d) if so, the Government's reaction thereto?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) : Presently, four Hydro Electric Projects (HEPs) (above installed capacity of 25 MW) are being constructed in the country with the assistance of Asian Development Bank (ADB). All these HEPs are located in Himachal Pradesh and none in Gujarat. In this regard, Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation Limited (HPPCL), a State Government undertaking had informed that a group of people with unverified credentials had written to ADB to stop funding based on unsubstantiated allegations. HPPCL had stated that preliminary verification of these allegations revealed that the report was not based on facts and appeared to be motivated and biased.