

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5838

ANSWERED ON:02.05.2013

DAMS ON GANGA

Kumar Shri P.;Nagorao Shri Dudhgaonkar Ganeshrao;Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan);Sivasami Shri C.

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether a large number of water projects are underway or have been sanctioned for construction in future in the Ganga river basin;
- (b) if so, the number of ongoing schemes in the said Ganga basin till the end of December, 2012 and the number of those being considered for approval for construction;
- (c) whether normal water flow in the rivers of the Ganga basin is no longer likely to remain the same in the wake of these projects and if so, the facts in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government has worked out any norms in regard to the quantity of water needed for keeping normal water flow in rivers and if so, the minimum water flow required for the same; and
- (e) whether it has been recommended that the projects be re-engineered to maintain 30 to 50 percent of water flow in the lean period of December-March and if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b) As per the data compiled by the Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) headed by Shri B.K. Chaturvedi, Member, Planning Commission, there are a total of 69 hydropower projects in the upper Ganga Basin. Out of these, 17 projects are under operation, 25 are under construction, 10 projects have been cleared by Central Electricity authority and 17 projects are under development /review stage.

(c) No Madam. Most of these projects are hydropower projects and run-of-the river type which do not substantially affect the water flow in the river (except some changes in pattern of flow).

(d) Yes Madam.

(e) No Madam. The IMG headed by Shri B.K. Chaturvedi, Member, Planning Commission has, in its report of April, 2013, recommended that "in upper reaches, where the requirement is for critical ecological functions as well as societal needs and water flow decline sharply in winter, it (the ecological flow) may be mandated between 25%-50% depending on the season and the river stretch. In urban stretches, it will be mandated based on the quantum of waste water released in the river and calculated using a factor of 10 for dilution