## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1832 ANSWERED ON:05.03.2015 DAMS BY CHINA Ering Shri Ninong;Gogoi Shri Gaurav

## Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of several Chinese hydropower dams and other projects along Indian border;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any assessment/surveys/studies regarding the impact of these projects on flow of water in Arunachal Pradesh and other North-Eastern States; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, including the steps taken by the Government to reduce its impact?

## **Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (PROF.SANWAR LAL JAT)

(a) to (d): China has taken up construction of Zangmu Hydro Electric Project and one power generating unit of the Project has been operationalized in November, 2014. The 'Outline of the 12th Five Year Plan for National Economic and Social Development of the People's Republic of China' indicates that three more hydropower projects on the main stream of the Brahma- putra River in Tibet Autonomous Region have been approved for implementation by the Chinese Authorities.

Government of India carefully monitors all developments on the Brahmaputra River. As a lower riparian state with considerable established user rights to the waters of the River, India has conveyed its views and concerns to the Chinese authorities and has urged them to ensure that the interests of downstream States are not harmed by any activities in upstream areas.

During the visit of Chinese President to India, in November, 2006, India and China agreed to set up an India-China Joint Expert Level Mechanism (ELM) on trans-border rivers. The ELM has held eight meetings, since 2007, the latest in June, 2014. Government takes up relevant issues relating to trans-border rivers, with the Chinese side through this Expert Level Mechanism.

During the Hon'ble Prime Minister's visit to China in October, 2013, both sides signed a separate "Memorandum of Understanding on Strengthening Cooperation on Trans- Border Rivers" on 23rd October 2013. Further, during Hon'ble Vice President's visit to China in June, 2014, both sides also signed an "Implementation Plan upon Provision of Hydrological Information of the Yarlung Zangbu/Brahmaputra River in Flood Season by China to India" on 30th June, 2014.

The Joint Statement issued during the recent visit of Chinese President to India in September, 2014, inter- alia states that "The two sides will further strengthen cooperation through the Expert-Level Mechanisms on the provision of flood-season hydrological data and emer- gency management, and exchange views on other issues of mutual Interest".