

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4128

ANSWERED ON:13.08.2015

Water Level in Brahmaputra

Sarmah Shri Ram Prasad

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

- (a) whether the water level in Brahmaputra river has gone down in recent time and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether dams constructed by China on this river are having any impact on its water level; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

ANSWER

THE MINISTER FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION
(SUSHRI UMA BHARTI)

(a) No, Madam. The changes in the river water flow are a natural phenomenon dependent on various hydro-meteorological and climatological factors. CWC collect and analyze the hydrological data relating to all major rivers including Brahmaputra in the country. No specific trend/fall in water level of River Brahmaputra has been observed by Central Water Commission in the recent past.

(b & C) Government has ascertained that one power generating unit of the Zangmu hydroelectric 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 Brahmaputra River in Tibet Autonomous Region have been approved for implementation by the Chinese Authorities. As these projects are considered to be Run of River (RoR) hydro-electric projects, any significant change in water level of River Brahmaputra is not expected.

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, at the highest levels of the Government of the People's Republic of China, and has urged China to ensure that the interests of downstream States are not harmed by any activities in upstream areas.
