

Need to take comprehensive measures to address the problems likely to occur due to proposed construction of dam over river Tsangpo by China.-laid

SHRIMATI BIJULI KALITA MEDHI (GUWAHATI): China's plans for large-scale dam construction over the Tsangpo River have raised significant geopolitical and environmental concerns for India, particularly for the Northeastern region. The construction of mega-dams for hydro power can regulate and divert water flow, potentially reducing the volume of water entering India, especially during the dry season. This reduced water flow can severely impact agriculture in Assam and other North Eastern states. Sudden releases of water during dam maintenance or natural disasters could exacerbate flooding in downstream areas of India, which are already flood-prone. Alterations to the river's natural flow could also impact the biodiversity of the Brahmaputra river, including fish and other aquatic species that communities in the Northeast rely on. Furthermore, the dams could trap sediments essential for maintaining the fertile floodplains of Assam and other regions downstream, leading to reduced agricultural productivity. The absence of a comprehensive water-sharing treaty between India and China for the Brahmaputra adds to the uncertainty and mistrust. In light of these concerns, I urge the Government to take immediate action to address this critical issue and ensure the interests of the Northeastern region are protected.