

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:751
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2005
TISTA IRRIGATION PROJECT
Barman Shri Hiten

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 894 on December 6, 2004 regarding Tista Irrigation Project and state:

- (a) the progress made so far in execution of work on the Tista Irrigation Project;
- (b) whether the Government will be able to complete all the three phases of the project by 2015; and
- (c) the details of the action plan or schedule of the Government on this project?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR HEAVY INDUSTRIES, PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV)

(a) to (c) Teesta (Tista) Barrage Project (TBP) was proposed to be executed in three phases. The first phase of the project envisages extending irrigation to an area of 9.22 lakh ha. The first phase is sub divided into three Stages and again the Stage-I is subdivided into Substage-I and Substage-II. Presently, first Substage of Stage-I of Phase-I of the project is under execution. The Substage-I contemplates for providing irrigation to an area of 3.42 lakh ha. Out of this, an irrigation potential of 1.285 lakh ha. has been created upto 31.3.2005. The prioritized components of Substage-I of the project, which are in advance stages of execution to create an additional potential of 1.25 lakh ha. are programmed to be completed by December, 2008. The first Substage of Stage-I of the project has been programmed to be completed by December, 2012.

The second phase of the project envisages construction of a storage dam over river Teesta at a distance of 600 meters upstream of the Coronation Bridge at Sevoke in the Darjeeling district in order to increase the irrigation potential as well as to generate hydel power of 235 MW. This proposal has been abandoned due to submergence of large forest areas.

The third phase of the project is related to the potential of linking up river Brahmaputra with Ganga by a canal for diverting excess floodwater as well as to provide a navigational route between the two rivers. This proposal is presently under study.