

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:125

ANSWERED ON:26.02.2007

BAGLIHAR HYDRO ELECTRIC PROJECT

Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Mane Smt. Nivedita;Singh Shri Kirti Vardhan

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any agreement has been reached between India and Pakistan regarding Baglihar Dam Project;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether an expert committee has been constituted by the World Bank for Baglihar Dam Project;
- (d) if so, whether the above mentioned committee has given any decision or report; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the stage at which the matter stands at present?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b) The issues raised by Pakistan on the design of the Baglihar Hydroelectric Plant were discussed in 8 meetings of the Permanent Indus Commission held between March, 2000 and May 2004 and in two meetings at the level of the concerned Secretaries of the two Governments held in June 2004 and January 2005, but no agreement could be reached.

(c) A Neutral Expert, Professor Raymond Lafitte from Switzerland, was appointed by the World Bank on 10.05.2005 on the request of the Government of Pakistan, for the Expert Determination of the Points of Difference raised by the Government of Pakistan.

(d) The above mentioned Neutral Expert has given his Expert Determination on 12.02.2007

(e) The Expert Determination

upholds India's design flood value of 16,500 cumec against Pakistan's calculations of 14,900 cumec

upholds India's design of gated spillways

upholds India's design of size and level of sluice spillways

provides for freeboard of 3 m as against 4.5 m designed by India and 0.84 m calculated by Pakistan

provides for a maximum pondage of 32.56 million cubic metres (MCM) as against 37.5 MCM calculated by India and 6.22 MCM by Pakistan

fixes the intake level 3 m higher than as designed by India

provides for India to resort to drawing down of reservoir for its maintenance & sustainability during monsoon season each year. This will enable sediment management and ensure the sustainability of the project.

In accordance with the relevant provision of the Indus Waters Treaty 1960 the decision of the Neutral Expert on all matters within his competence shall be final and binding upon the Parties and upon any Court of Arbitration established under the relevant provision of the Treaty.