

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:500
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2007
HYDRO-POWER POTENTIAL IN NORTH EAST REGION
Subba Shri Moni Kumar

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the estimated hydro-power potential available in the North Eastern Region as on date;
- (b) whether a High Level Expert Group has been set up to optimize utilization of hydro- power potential of the region;
- (c) if so, the terms of reference of the said Group; and
- (d) the further steps taken/being taken by the Government to exploit the hydro-power potential available in the Region?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE)

- (a) : The estimated hydro-power potential of the North-Eastern Region including Sikkim in terms of the installed capacity is about 63,250 MW.
- (b) : No, Sir.
- (c) : Does not arise.
- (d) : The Policy on hydro power development announced by the Government of India in 1998 and the National Electricity Policy announced in February, 2005 lay emphasis on the expeditious development of feasible hydro potential in the country particularly that of the North Eastern Region and other Himalayan States. The Government of India had also launched 50,000 MW Hydroelectric Initiative in 2003-04. Out of the total 162 schemes identified under this programme for which Pre-Feasibility Reports have been prepared, 72 schemes aggregating to about 32,000 MW are located in the North Eastern Region including Sikkim. Apart from this, 34 schemes aggregating to 20,822 MW are under survey and investigation in this Region. Further, 14 schemes aggregating to 7,875 MW have been tentatively identified in this Region for yielding benefits during the 11th Plan.