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Title: Need to instruct NEEPCO to resume the work on Tural Hydro Power Project in Mizoram.

SHRI VANLAL ZAWMA (MIZORAM): I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards temporary closure of Tural Hydro Power Project (60 MW) in Mizoram. It is important to mention that NEEPCO has already invested approx. Rs. 250 crore in the project.

NEEPCO had agreed to pay Rs. 8 crore compensation to the local population. NEEPCO has already paid Rs. 4 crore compensation on time. But the trouble started due to non-payment of the rest Rs. 4 crore compensation after three months of the due date. The local population started peaceful agitation on June, 2004 for the outstanding compensation to be paid by NEEPCO. In September, 2004, local people withdrew agitation to resume the project for the interest of the nation at large.

Till date NEEPCO has not resumed the work. NEEPCO is claiming escalation in the project estimation due to temporary closure of the project. If NEEPCO does not start the project immediately, the cost of the project will further increase. We may land up in a no return situation. If the compensation is the bottleneck, the State Government has already written to the Power Ministry to reassess the compensation.

I request the Government of India to intervene in the matter and instruct NEEPCO to start the project immediately and settle the matter of compensation.

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