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Title: Need to send a Central Team to assess the losses incurred in Teesta Lower Dam Project Stage – III and Stage – IV in Darjeeling, West Bengal.

SHRI D. NARBULA (DARJEELING): NHPC (National Hydel Power Corporation) has been generating electricity through different projects in different States. Two such projects have started in Teesta River in the District of Darjeeling namely - (1) Teesta Lower Dam Project (TLDP) stage-III at Rambhadracharya at 27<sup>th</sup> Mile and (2) TLDP Stage-IV at Kalizora. The Government, of India has been investing a huge sum of money for these projects.

During the recent heavy rain in the Hill Regions of Darjeeling many portions of both the Dams (under construction) and many materials and equipments of both the projects were either destroyed or swept away by the Teesta River and a huge loss in crores have been incurred. The Central Govt., the Ministry of Power should send an enquiry team to assess the losses incurred in TLDP Stage-III and TLDP Stage-IV separately. It should also enquire whether any human life was involved in this loss. Secondly an assessment should also be made whether these two projects can be revived and if so when will the work start.

The Government, should also enquire as to the persons, experts, technicians under whose instructions and guidance the work of these projects were in progress for which the Government, sustained such a huge loss and those if found negligent of their work have to be taken to task.