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Title: Regarding construction of Lower Subansiri Hydro Electric Project in Assam.

SHRI RAM PRASAD SARMAH (TEZPUR): Lower Subansiri Hydro Electric Project was taken up by NHPC for generation of 2000 MW of power and started way back in 2005 with an estimated cost of Rs. 4500 crore. But due to unrealistic approach and agitation by a few local organizations against the construction of the Dam, on the alleged ground of lack of safety features, the construction of the project is lying in moribund state with the cost so far escalating to Rs. 8500 crore, with only about 40% works completed. It is reported that for the completion of project and its proper function another Rs. 11000 crore would be required.

A team of experts had been appointed and it is informed that the expert team having completed its study on safety features, is yet to submit the report to the Government. Assam is starving for power as no industry worth the name has come up for want of electricity. The rural people and the students in particular, are the worst sufferers as hundreds of villages are yet to get electricity.

In view of the above, I earnestly urge the Government of India, Ministry of Power to direct the expert committee to submit the report and the authorities in NHPC, the Power Ministry to take up construction of the Project and the State Government to facilitate transportation of men and materials to the construction site. I also seek clear stand of the Government of India and the NHPC on the time period for completion of this project.