

the conditions relating to relief and rehabilitation and those related to environmental clearance;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto, to ensure that conditions precedent are fulfilled before going ahead with such constructions; and

(c) the present status of the project works?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): (a) to (c) 400 MW Maheshwar Hydro Electric Project on river Narmada is being implemented by a private promoter namely, Shree Maheshwar Hydel Power Corporation Limited (SMHPCL), subject to fulfillment of certain conditions, including submission of a comprehensive Resettlement & Rehabilitation (R&R) plan and completion of R&R work six months prior of commencement of submergence. The Ministry of Environment & Forests has directed Government of Madhya Pradesh to get immediate suspension of construction work at Maheshwar Hydroelectric Project due to non-submission of R&R policy by the SMHPCL.

The Construction work was suspended from June 2006, due to order issued by the Ministry of Environment and Forests. Thereafter, the SMHPCL obtained interim stay order from the Hon'ble High Court of Madhya Pradesh in June, 2006 itself and the work on the dam and spillways has re-commenced.

Increase of height of Babhali Project by Maharashtra

862. SHRIMATI N.P.DURGA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh about the unauthorized increase in the height of Babhali Project by Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details of the representation submitted by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh;

(c) what action Government have taken to convince the State Government of Maharashtra to stop unauthorized construction of Babhali Project;

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(d) whether it is a fact that last month i.e. in July, 2006 the Supreme Court has given some direction on Babhali Project; and

(e) if so, the details of the directives of Supreme Court?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): (a) to (c) Government of Andhra Pradesh in May, 2005 brought to the notice of Central Government that Government of Maharashtra has taken up construction of 11 new barrages across main river Godavari including Babhali Barrage, in violation of the inter-state agreement between the two States. In this connection, two inter State meetings were held in Central Water Commission with the Government of Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh on 11.7.2005 and 5.10.2005. Minister (WR) also convened an inter-state meeting with the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra on 4.4.2006 on the Babhali Barrage issue.

(d) and (e) In July, 2006, Government of Andhra Pradesh has filed on Original Suit under Article 131 of Constitution against State of Maharashtra and Union of India and Others. In the Suit, the State of Andhra Pradesh has prayed to the Court to grant a permanent injunction restraining State of Maharashtra from undertaking or proceeding with the construction Babhali Barrage within the reservoir waterspread area of Pochampad Project. In the Application for Interim Relief in the Suit, it has prayed to the Court to restrain the State of Maharashtra by an *ex-parte* Order of ad-interim injunction from proceeding with the construction of Babhali barrage on river Godavari and impounding water therein. The Court has directed respondents to file reply and directed to list the Suit for 4/8/2006 to consider application of interim relief.

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863. SHRI B.J.PANDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India have been shown in a poor light on