

and investigation, preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR), submission of DPR by the Project Authority to the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for concurrence, examination of DPR by CEA in consultation with Central Water Commission (CWC), Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR), Geological Survey of India (GSI) etc., Clearances from concerned authorities in case of inter-State/Country aspects, Clearances by Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF) in respect of forest and environment clearance, etc.

Thus, the construction of a hydro project takes about 5 to 8 years depending upon the features of the project and site conditions.

(c) There is a well defined process including prescribed time limits for according of various clearances. The Government also regularly reviews and monitors the status of various clearances to hydro projects with a view to expedite the clearances and rehabilitation of displaced people as per the National Policy on Resettlement and Rehabilitation-2007 of the Government of India.

Rights over minor forest produce

851. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to grant rights over the "minor forest produce" to the tribals to ensure their livelihood, particularly the naxal-affected districts; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating changes sought in the integrated action plan for the development of these districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI TUSHARBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) As per Clause 4(m)(ii) of the Panchayats Extension to Scheduled Areas Act, 1996 (PESA), Panchayats at the appropriate level and the Gram Sabha are endowed with the ownership of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) in Schedule V Areas.

(b) To address critical gaps in development in 35 focus districts affected by Left Wing Extremism (LWE), Planning Commission has initiated the process of preparation of Integrated Action Plan (IAPs) for these focus districts with the help of the State Governments and the district administrations and elected representatives, keeping in view the deliberations in the National Development Council (NDC) meeting held on 24th July 2010.