

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 02.08.2010
ANSWERED ON
ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE TO LOHARI NAGPALA DAM .

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Shri Prakash Javadekar

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :-

(a) whether Government has granted environmental clearance for restarting the work on Lohari Nagpala Dam on Bhagirathi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) & (b) The environmental clearance to the Loharinag Pala hydroelectric project was given on 08.02.2005. However in a writ petition (no. 15 of 2009), the Hon'ble High Court of Uttrakhand directed that the issue regarding Loharinag Pala, Pala Maneri and Bhaironghati projects may be decided by the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA). The NGRBA in its meeting on 5.10.2009 decided that the issue would be studied by the Ministries of Environment and Forests and Power and a report submitted to NGRBA. This report was submitted in December 2009. Subsequently, another committee was constituted to examine the implications of discontinuing the Loharinag Pala project. Both these reports were considered by a committee constituted under the chairmanship of Finance Minister. A final view on the recommendations of this committee is yet to be taken.