

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 363
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.02.2021**

DAM ON BRAHMAPUTRA

†363. DR. DEEPAK BAIJ:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether China is working on a proposal for constructing a big dam almost thirty Kilometers before Indian border on Brahmaputra river in Tibet and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether an assessment of loss in Indian region in future has been made in view of the water capacity of the dam and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the said dam is a threat to India in the opinion of experts; and
- (d) if so, the details of the steps to be taken to check the likely loss to India due to sudden release of water from the said dam proposed by China?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN)**

(a) to (d) Government has taken note of reports regarding China's plans for hydropower development on the lower reaches of the Brahmaputra river.

Government carefully monitors all developments on the Brahmaputra river. As a lower riparian state, with considerable established user rights to the waters of the trans-border rivers, Government has consistently conveyed its views and concerns to the Chinese authorities and has urged them to ensure that the interests of downstream States are not harmed by any activities in upstream areas. The Chinese side has conveyed to us on several occasions that they are only undertaking run-of-the-river hydropower projects, which do not involve diversion of the waters of the Brahmaputra.

Various issues relating to trans-border rivers are discussed with China under the ambit of an institutionalized Expert Level Mechanism which was established in 2006, as well as through diplomatic channels. We intend to remain engaged with China on the issue of trans-border rivers to safeguard our interests.
