

## Ekattorer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee, UK's comment on Tipaimukh Dam

Saturday, 22 August 2009

On 6th August, 2009 Ekattorer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee of UK in a round table conference opined that people with vested interests have raised the issue of "Resisting Tipaimukh Dam" with the ill motive of foiling the Bangladesh government's program for trying the war-criminals of 1971. I fully endorse their opinion.

I believe the readers of this writing understand the difference between a Dam and a Barrage. In that case the learned reader should know that : (01) ONLY THE PEOPLE WITH LITTLE INTELLIGENCE MAY OPINE THAT A DAM WOULD REDUCE THE RATE OF WATER SUPPLY IN DRY MONTHS, where the fact is, it increases the same during dry seasons. (02) THOSE WHO OPINE THAT THE DAM WOULD INCREASE FLOODING PROBLEM DURING WET SEASONS LACK IN INTELLIGENCE, where the fact is, it stops such possibility as has happened in case of Kaptai dam in Chittagong. (03) ONLY THE PEOPLE WITH LITTLE INTELLIGENCE MAY OPINE THAT A DAM WOULD HELP TO CREATE SEDIMENTATION/SILTATION IN SYLHET RIVERS, where the fact is, the rate of sedimentation/siltation is decreased because the dam arrests the same, as may be seen in Kaptai lake. (04) THOSE WHO SAY THAT IT WOULD AFFECT THE SPECIES OF FISH IN SYLHET RIVERS ARE PARTLY CORRECT, because some of those living in mountainous rivers may not be available. (05) THOSE WHO SAY THAT IT WOULD AFFECT FISH CATCH AND CULTIVATION IN SYLHET RIVERS LACK IN INTELLIGENCE, where the fact is, more water during winter would help in its cultivation and catch.

Now resisting a project that would help INDIA in generating low-cost electricity and would help BANGLADESH in (a) CONTROLLING FLOOD, (b) FACING LESS SILTATION PROBLEM and (c) INCREASING AGRICULTURE AND FISHING FACILITIES DURING WINTER, means resisting a beneficial project for a genuine but trifling cause like non-availability of mountain-species of fish.

In the above situation, a person can shout against Tipaimukh Dam only if he (a) DOES NOT HAVE ANY KNOWLEDGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, (B) IS AN ANTI-INDIAN BY NATURE, (C) IS A GREAT LOVER OF MOUNTAIN-SPECIES OF FISH or, (D) IS A GREAT RAJAKAR, WHO INTEND TO FOIL THE BANGLADESH GOVERNMENT'S PROGRAM TO PUNISH THE WAR-CRIMINALS BY MAKING TIPAI DAM AN ISSUE.

Those who may have any doubt in the science and technology based issues discussed above may kindly consult any student or graduate of Water Resources from BUET (Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology. I am mentioning BUET because I have noticed persons with degrees probably from non-standard, certificate-selling, postal-degree giving type foreign universities to have erroneous ideas), rather than to depend on the shouting of (i) the people who could not get admission in better institutions, or (ii) those having tremendous sympathy for the war criminals on 1971.

Yours etc. Prof. Bijon B. Sarma.