1.1 HISTORY

On 6th July, 1968 the State of Gujarat made a complaint to the Government of India under Section 3 of the Inter State Water Disputes Act, 1956 stating that a water dispute has arisen between the State of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra over the use, distribution and control of the waters of the Inter State river Narmada.

The Government of India acting under Section 4 of the Inter State Water Disputes Act, 1956 constituted Narmada River Water Disputes Tribunal vide Notification dated 6th October, 1969. On the same day the Central Government referred the water dispute regarding the Inter State river Narmada and the River Valley thereon for adjudication to Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal.

The Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal passed comprehensive order on 16th August, 1978. This order was accepted and notified by the Government of India in December, 1979. The Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of Indian granted environment clearance on 24th June, 1987 and Forest Clearance on 8th September, 1987 to the Sardar Sarovar Project.

1.2 HIGHLIGHT OF THE SARDAR SAROVAR PROJECT

The project comprises dam, power houses and canal network. The length of the main concrete gravity dam is 1,210 metres and the height is 163 meters from the deepest foundation level. The reservoir impounded by the construction of dam will be extended about 214 km upstream covering a surface area of 370 sq. km. The gross storage capacity of the reservoir is 9,500 million cubic metres (7.70 MAF) and live storage capacity is 5,800 million cubic meters (4.72 MAF).

The River Bed Power House located underground on the right bank have six reversible turbine units with capacity of 200 MW each. The Canal Head Power House on the right bank have 5 conventional Kaplan type turbine units with capacity of 50 MW each.

The concrete lined Narmada Main Canal emanating from the reservoir and extending upto Rajasthan Border has length of 458 km. It has a capacity of 1,133 cumecs at the head and 71 cumecs at the tail, i.e. at the Gujarat – Rajasthan border. There are 44 branches off taking from the Narmada Main Canal.

The total length of the distribution system, including field channels is about 66,000 km. The water will be supplied on volumetric basis on the rotational
water supply system with automated regulation of the canals by means of computerized controls for optimizing the use of scarce water and minimizing danger of water logging and salinity in soil.

The Project will provide irrigation to 17.92 lacs hectares of land in Gujarat spread over 14 districts, 75 talukas and 3,129 villages. About 75% the command area of the Project in Gujarat has been classified as ‘drought prone’, 75,000 hectares of land in the arid areas of Barmer and Jalore districts of Rajasthan will also come under assured irrigation.

Drinking water facilities to 8,215 villages and 135 urban centres located within and outside the command area will be provided covering all the urban centres and villages of Saurashtra and Kuchchh and all “no source” or inadequate source” villages of North Gujarat. Most of these areas not only suffer from perennial shortage of potable water.

1.3 ABOUT ORGANISATION:

The Government of Gujarat vide its Resolution dated 21st March, 1988 decided to set up Sardar Sarovar Narmada Nigam Limited to execute the work of Sardar Sarovar (Narmada) Project. Accordingly, the Sardar Sarovar Narmada Nigam Limited was incorporated under the provisions of Companies Act, 1956 on 24th March, 1988. All the paid-up equity share capital of the Nigam is held by the Government of Gujarat therefore it is wholly owned Government of Gujarat Undertaking.

The registered office of the Nigam is situated at Block No.12, Sardar Bhavan, Gandhinagar. The various circle offices, division offices, sub division offices etc. are located at different places in Gujarat State.

1.4 FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES OF THE ORGANIZATION:

The Nigam is executing Sardar Sarovar (Narmada) Project comprising dam, power houses, canal system and other works incidental or ancillary to the SSP, details objects are as per Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Nigam.

1.5 Timing of the Office:

The working hours of the office is 10.30 AM to 6.10 PM.

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