

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA
REJUVENATION
RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2167

ANSWERED ON 20.03.2023

NATIONAL PROJECT STATUS TO UPPER BHADRA

2167. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has given national project status to Upper Bhadra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any assessment has been made about its impact on the water availability in the Rayalaseema which is a lower riparian region of Andhra Pradesh;
- (d) if so, whether any consultations have been made with Government of Andhra Pradesh before giving national project status to Upper Bhadra; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, whether Government will discuss with State Government of Andhra Pradesh before going ahead on the project?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) & (b) For inclusion of a project for funding under National Projects (NP) scheme of this Ministry, it is required to be first appraised by Central Water Commission (CWC), and accepted by the Advisory Committee on Irrigation, Flood Control and Multipurpose Projects (Advisory Committee) of this Ministry. The project is then required to be considered by the High Powered Steering Committee (HPSC) for examining if it meets the contours of the NP scheme. On being recommended by HPSC, and as per availability of funds etc., Government of India may approve inclusion of a project under the NP scheme.

Based on acceptance of the Advisory Committee in its meeting held in December, 2020, the HPSC recommended the project for inclusion under NP scheme in February, 2022. Thereafter, Public Investment Board (PIB), in its meeting held in October, 2022, has recommended the project to Government of India for inclusion under NP scheme.

(c) Krishna Water Dispute Tribunal – I (KWDT-I), duly considering availability of waters of Krishna basin in the various regions, including Rayalaseema, gave its award notified by Government of India in

1976. Water utilization proposed under Upper Bhadra project in Krishna basin in Karnataka is within the allocations made to the State by KWDT-I. Accordingly, the project has been considered acceptable from inter-State angle and has been accepted by the Advisory Committee.

(d) & (e) As per CWC Guidelines, in cases where a valid Tribunal award is there and planned utilization from any project is within the allocation of the award, views/opinion of other riparian States are not required to be sought by CWC for examination of inter-State aspects.

However, in view of voicing of concerns by Government of Andhra Pradesh during the 13th HPSC meeting held in December 2021, CWC re-examined the inter-State aspects for the project in consultation with the Government of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka officials. The project was recommended by HPSC in its 14th meeting held in February, 2022 on re-affirmation by CWC that the water allocation for the project is within the allocations made in KWDT-I award to Karnataka.
