

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 104

ANSWERED ON 03.02.2025

NEW DAM IN KAVERI RIVER

104. SHRI S. KALYANASUNDARAM

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by Government to ensure the rights of lower riparian States of the Kaveri river and the details thereof; and
- (b) whether Government has accorded any approval for the construction of a new dam across the Kaveri river and the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) In exercise of the powers conferred by section 6A of Inter-State River Water Disputes (ISRWD) Act, 1956 the Central Government *vide* Gazette notification dated 1.6.2018 notified the Cauvery Water Management Scheme (CWMS), *inter-alia*, constituting the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) and Cauvery Water Regulation Committee (CWRC), to give effect to the decision of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal, as modified by the Hon'ble Supreme Court *vide* its order dated 16.2.2018.

The powers, functions and duties of the CWMA as given in the said Gazette notification mention that Authority shall exercise such powers and shall discharge such duty to do any or all things necessary, sufficient and expedient for securing compliance and implementation of the Award of the Tribunal as modified by the Hon'ble Supreme Court including:

- i. storage, apportionment, regulation and control of Cauvery waters;
- ii. supervision of operation of reservoirs and with regulation of water releases therefrom with the assistance of Regulation Committee;
- iii. regulated release by Karnataka, at the inter-State contact point presently identified as Biligundulu gauge and discharge station, located on the common border of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

The function of the CWRC are to ensure the implementation of the provisions contained in the final Award of the Tribunal as modified by the Hon'ble Supreme Court with the directions to the Authority.

Regular meetings of the CWRC and CWMA are held wherein the Hydro-meteorological conditions in the Cauvery basin, storage position in the designated reservoirs, inflows into/ outflows from the designated dams in the Cauvery basin and the quantum of flows to be ensured at Biligundulu, the inter-State contact point between the State of Karnataka and the State of Tamil Nadu, are deliberated in detail and decision taken in the consultation with all the party member States/Union Territories.

During the current water year 2024-25 (water years is form 1st June to 31st May), 7 meetings of the Authority and 14 meetings of the Regulation Committee have been held so far.

(b) Central Government hasn't accorded any approval for the construction of a new dam across the Cauvery river.
