

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2476**

ANSWERED ON 10.08.2026

**MEKEDATU RESERVOIR AND CONSENT OF RIPARIAN STATES**

2476      Shri PRAVEEN CHAKRAVARTHY:

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

- (a) whether the consent of all lower riparian basin States will be considered in determining the suitability of the Mekedatu Balancing Reservoir project;
- (b) the impact of the project on presently uncontrolled catchment flows downstream of Krishnarajasagara and Kabini, the Shimsha, Arkavathy and Suvarnavathy sub-basins;
- (c) the hydrological studies and methodology relied upon by the CWC, CWMA and CWRC while examining the project, particularly its impact on releases at Biligundlu;
- (d) whether the assessment examined monthly release schedules, besides the annual allocation of 177.25 TMC; and
- (e) the annual quantum of uncontrolled flows proposed to be impounded and whether it has been independently verified by CWC/CWMA?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI**

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) As per the direction of Hon'ble Supreme Court, Central Government vide Notification dated 01.06.2018 constituted Cauvery Water Management Scheme, 2018 consisting of the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) and Cauvery Water Regulation Committee (CWRC) to implement the CWDT's Order as modified by Hon'ble Supreme Court vide Judgment dated 16.02.2018. As per Para 3 (d) and Para 17 (2) of the Notification dated 01.06.2018, CWMA and CWRC have representatives from Co-basin States namely Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Union territory of Puducherry. Further, as per the powers, functions and duties of CWMA specified under Para 10 of the said Notification dated 01.06.2018, CWMA is mandated with responsibility of playing the role of a regulator and implementer of the Tribunal Award (as modified by Hon'ble Court) in the Cauvery basin. In view of powers, functions and duties of CWMA, Guidelines for appraisal of Water Resources Projects in Cauvery basin has been issued by CWC in supplement to the "Guidelines for Submission, Appraisal and Acceptance of Irrigation and Multipurpose Projects 2017". As per the said Guidelines, Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) shall convey views regarding conformity or otherwise of the proposed water utilization in the project with the CWDT Award (as modified by the Hon'ble Supreme Court).

(b) to (e) Hydrological studies submitted by the project authority as a part of DPR are examined and reviewed by CWC during techno- economic appraisal of the DPR. The hydrological studies for any project is dealt in line with the award of the tribunal and the decisions/judgments of the Hon'ble courts. Detailed Project Report (DPR) of Mekedatu Balancing Reservoir cum Drinking Water Project, Karnataka submitted in 2019 has been returned to the project authority with the request to submit the revised DPR in compliance with the CWDT Award and as per the extant CWC guidelines.

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