GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4592 ANSWERED ON 22.03.2018

SHARING OF CAUVERY WATER

4592. DR. P. VENUGOPAL

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that Tamil Nadu had requested Karnataka to release at least 15 tmcft of Cauvery for saving its crops but the neighbouring State maintained that it did not have enough water and if so, the details and the facts thereof;

(b) whether it is also true that Tamil Nadu had requested immediate release of 7 tmcft of water and the balance within a fortnight from the existing storage and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is considering to intervene in the matter as requested by Tamil Nadu due to denial of legitimate water supply by Karnataka; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION & PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a) to (d) Chief Secretary, Government of Tamil Nadu has sent written communications to Secretary (WR, RD & GR) and Chairman, Supervisory Committee on Cauvery from time to time requesting to advise the Government of Karnataka to make good the shortfalls in realizations of flows at Billigundulu. She also requested Chairman, Supervisory Committee to ensure that the releases are made by Karnataka in accordance with the monthly schedule in 10-daily intervals as prescribed in the final Order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal (CWDT).

In this regard, on 05.10.2017 Secretary (WR, RD & GR) had communicated the request of Tamil Nadu to Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka for consideration of release of water to Tamil Nadu in accordance with the proportionate share of monthly quantum prescribed under Clause-IX of the CWDT Order.

Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka vide his communication dated 29.11.2017 had reported that Karnataka is facing a distress situation in Cauvery Basin and despite that they have ensured release of water at Billigundulu site which is more than the share of Tamil Nadu in the distress year.

As per the CWDT Order, flow from June to February at CWC Billigundulu site in a normal year is required to be 184.5 TMC. Against this, flow actually received at Billigundulu site from June 2017 to February, 2018 is 114.185 TMC.

Additionally, in the Regional Conference of Southern States on Water Resources held at Hyderabad on 20.02.2018, Government of Tamil Nadu requested to advise Karnataka to release 15 TMC ft of water to save the standing crops in Tamil Nadu. In the Conference, it was decided that all the issues pertaining to Cauvery basin can be placed before the 'scheme' to be framed by the Centre under Section 6A of ISRWD Act (as per final orders of the Supreme Court dated 16.02.2018 on Cauvery issue).