

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES,
RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 293
ANSWERED ON 19.07.2018

MODERNISATION OF GRAND ANICUT CANAL PROJECT

293. SHRI BHARATHI MOHAN R.K.

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has received any request from the State Government of Tamil Nadu for the approval and sanction of funds for the extension, renovation and modernization of Grand Anicut Canal and the linking of the rivers Cauvery-Vaigai-Gundar projects in the State;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the current status of these proposed projects;
- (c) whether there is any inordinate delay in according approval to such projects in Tamil Nadu; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Union Government to accord approval to such projects which are pending for many years?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a) to (d) The Union Government has received request from State Government of Tamil Nadu for “Extension, Renovation and Modernization (ERM) of Grand Anicut Canal System”. The proposal was accepted by the Investment Committee of Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR, RD & GR) in its 6th meeting held on 05.05.2017. Earlier, this ERM project was accepted by Advisory Committee of MoWR, RD & GR in its 130th meeting held on 30.09.2016 for a cost of Rs. 2298.75 Crore at Price Level(PL) 2014-15. This ERM project is part of 9 cluster of projects for “Improvements and Rehabilitation of Irrigation Systems in Cauvery Basin for efficient Water Management, for which “In Principle” clearance for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) was conveyed to Project Authority. The remaining set of 8 DPRs as per the latest Guidelines for Submission, Appraisal and Acceptance of Irrigation and Multipurpose Projects, 2017 have not been received from the State Government for techno-economic appraisal.

Regarding Cauvery-Vaigai-Gundar link, the Feasibility Report of this link project envisaged under the Peninsular Component of National Perspective Plan for Water Resources Development was completed by National Water Development Agency in December 2004 and was circulated to the concerned States.

Further a scheme “Linking of Cauvery with Agniyar, south Vellar, Pambar, Manimuthur, Vagai and Gundur rivers”, with estimated cost of Rs. 5166 crore was received in Central Water Commission (CWC) field unit during March 2012 and the comments were sent to the State Government in May 2012. In compliance, the State Government submitted the revised scheme namely “Excavation of Flood Carrier Canal from Cauvery (Kattalai Barrage) to Manimuthur, Vagai and Gundur rivers (Phase-I &II). The comments on the revised scheme were sent to the State Government in August 2012. Response of the State Government on comments of CWC have not been received.

Further, the State Government has reported in April 2015 that this scheme is now being considered to posed under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) and accordingly the DPR is proposed in phases incorporating the guidelines of new Land Acquisition Act and adopting current Schedule of Rates. In view of more than a year delay in submission of compliance by State to CWC observations, as per the appraisal guidelines, the scheme is brought under ‘Returned to State’ category from ‘Awaited for appraisal’ category. No further DPR/Proposal has been received from State Government.
