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

(a) whether the Government has taken or proposes to take any steps for the construction of dams for irrigation in the tributaries of Wainganga flowing throughout the year in Gadchiroli-Chimur, a tribal dominated Parliamentary Constituency in the State of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds allocated by the Government for the said purpose?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)

(a) to (c) Water being a state subject, it is for the State Governments concerned to plan, implement and maintain water resources projects, including dam projects, within their jurisdiction. However, in order to augment the efforts of the State Governments, Government of India provides technical support and also partial financial assistance to identified projects under its ongoing schemes.

Gosikhurd dam project, included under the National projects scheme, is being provided partial financial assistance from this Ministry. Along with Nagpur and Chandrapur districts, the project also benefits parts of Bhandara district under Gadchiroli-Chimur parliamentary constituency. Against ultimate irrigation potential of 2.51 lakh hectare, 1.53 lakh hectare has been created so far, while the balance works are targeted to be completed by December, 2024. Further, till date, a total of Rs. 3,682.47 crore has been released to the project as central assistance. Balance central assistance of Rs.451.58 crore is to be released for the project as per norms of the scheme.

Apart from the above project, Government of Maharashtra have also taken up a number of other irrigation projects on the tributaries of Wainganga in Gadchiroli-Chimur parliamentary constituency of Maharashtra. However, due to command area being interspersed with forests, steep slope of the river coupled with low elevation of its banks, and non-conducive geology, dam projects in Wainganga river are generally techno-economically unviable. Thus focus of Government of Maharashtra in this region is on lift irrigation schemes and barrages.

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