

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

**STARRED QUESTION NO. \*209**

ANSWERED ON 03.08.2023

**CONSTRUCTION OF MEKEDATU DAM**

\*209      DR. T.R. PAARIVENDHAR  
             SHRI M. SELVARAJ

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government is aware of the fact that Government of Karnataka is on the process of construction of Mekedatu Dam on the Cauvery river and if so, whether the Ministry has accorded its approval for the same;
- (b) whether the Union Government has received any representation from the Government of Tamil Nadu to intervene and take steps to stop the ongoing construction of Mekedatu Dam by the Government of Karnataka;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the action being taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government in response to the request of Government of Tamil Nadu?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI**

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (d) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. \*209 TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.08.2023 REGARDING “CONSTRUCTION OF MEKEDATU DAM”.**

**(a)** Feasibility Report (FR) of Mekedatu Balancing Reservoir cum Drinking Water Project, Karnataka was submitted to the Central Water Commission (CWC) for "in principle" clearance for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR). CWC accorded 'in-principle' clearance on 24.10.2018 for preparation of DPR by project proponent authority (Government of Karnataka) subject to certain conditions which inter alia include: "As the main objective of this scheme as stated in the FR is to implement the Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal (CWDT) Award as modified by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, acceptance of Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) would be a pre-requisite for consideration of the DPR by the Advisory Committee of MoWR, RD & GR".

Subsequently, the DPR of the Mekedatu Balancing Reservoir cum Drinking Water Project was submitted by Government of Karnataka to CWC in January 2019 and the DPR was referred to CWMA. Discussion on this DPR was included as an agenda item during various meetings of the CWMA. In the 18th meeting of CWMA held on 02.12.2022, after deliberations, it was decided that the CWMA will take a uniform stand for taking up discussions on the Mekedatu project as well as any other project in Cauvery Basin, till the Hon'ble Supreme Court gives a decision on the I.A. 84201 of 2022 filed by the State of Tamil Nadu.

**(b) & (c)** A letter dated 29.10.2022 from the Hon'ble Minister for Water Resources, Government of Tamil Nadu was received, requesting Hon'ble Minister (Jal Shakti), Government of India to advise the Cauvery Water Management Authority not to include the Mekedatu project proposal issue in the agenda of its ensuing meeting, as the matter is sub-judice. Another letter dated 02.11.2022 from Chief Secretary, Government of Tamil Nadu of a similar nature was also received.

**(d)** Government of Tamil Nadu has been apprised of the decision taken by CWMA in its 18th meeting held on 02.12.2022 mentioned in reply to part (a) above.

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