# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

# MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

# DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

# LOK SABHA

# **UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2412**

ANSWERED ON 03.08.2023

# MEKEDATU PROJECT

# 2412. SHRI PRAJWAL REVANNA

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of the Mekedatu drinking water project, Upper Bhadra Project in the State of Karnataka;
- (b) whether the Government has approved Mekedatu project to provide drinking water to Bangalore City and utilise surplus water flowing into Ocean during monsoon and if so, the outcome of the meeting of Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) in this regard; and
- (c) whether the Government has declared Upper Bhadra Project (UBP) as national project and if so, the details thereof along with the details of project cost, sanctioned and released funds so far?

#### **ANSWER**

# THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) to (c) 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 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 Detailed Project Report (DPR) by the Advisory Committee of M/o Jal Shakti".

Subsequently, the DPR of the Mekedatu Balancing Reservoir cum Drinking Water Project was submitted by Government of Karnataka to CWC in January 2019 and it was referred to CWMA. Discussion on the DPR of the Mekedatu Balancing Reservoir cum Drinking Water Project 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 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.

With regard to the Upper Bhadra Project, Government of Karnataka undertaking i.e. Visvesvaraya Jala Nigam Limited is implementing the project, having an estimated cost of Rs. 21,473.67 crore. The project is in an advanced stage of implementation.

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