GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1980

ANSWERED ON 14.12.2023

EASTERN RAJASTHAN CANAL PROJECT

†1980. SHRI HANUMAN BENIWAL

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to declare the Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project (ERCP) as a national project, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the details of the efforts made by the Government so far in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) Though some requests have been received, but Government of Rajasthan has so far not submitted any formal proposal for inclusion of Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project (ERCP) under the National Project scheme being serviced by this Ministry.

Further, for inclusion of a project for funding under National Projects scheme of Government of India, it is to be first appraised by Central Water Commission (CWC), and accepted by the Advisory Committee on Irrigation, Flood Control and Multipurpose projects of this Ministry. Thereafter, investment clearance is to be obtained by the State Government. Subsequently, the project is to be considered by the High Powered Steering Committee (HPSC) to examine if the project meets the laid down norms for the National Project scheme. On being recommended by HPSC, and as per availability of funds etc., Government of India may approve inclusion of a project under the National Project scheme.

Detailed project report (DPR) of Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project (ERCP) was submitted by Govt. of Rajasthan in November, 2017 for techno-economic appraisal to CWC. However, appraisal of the project could not move further as the project was planned on 50% dependable yield against the established norm of 75% dependability.

(b) With a view to optimize the utilization of water of the Chambal river system, in November, 2019 the Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers decided to explore the integration of ERCP with Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal link project of National Perspective Plan. Based on deliberations with both the States of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh, a proposal of Modified Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal (modified PKC) link, was prepared. The proposed project targets to provide drinking and industrial water in 13 districts of eastern Rajasthan, apart from Malwa and Chambal regions of Madhya Pradesh. It also envisages providing irrigation in atleast 2.8 lakh hectare in both the States, including supplementation of en-route tanks in the two States.

In December, 2022, the Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers has, approved the proposal of considering the modified Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal (PKC) link project integrated with ERCP as a part of National Perspective Plan, and declared the phase-I of the project as a priority interlinking project. Thereafter, in January, 2023, a draft Pre-Feasibility Report of Modified PKC link project and a draft MoU for preparing the DPR of the link project has been forwarded to both the States and CWC. Further, based on consensus building meetings with both the States, a draft MoU on broad planning of the link project and preparation of its DPR, has been finalized in the joint meeting held in September, 2023.
