

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 883

ANSWERED ON 07.12.2023

BARRAGE PROJECT ON SAKRI RIVER

†883. SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR

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

- (a) whether the Barrage project at Baksauti on Sakri river in Bihar has been approved by the Central Water Commission and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the proposal for construction of barrage at Baksauti on Sakri river sent by the Government of Bihar is pending with the Ministry;
- (c) whether the said project would benefit farmers of Nawada district as well as Nalanda, Sheikhpura, Lakhisarai, Gaya and Jehanabad; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the said pending Baksauti Barrage project would be approved?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) & (b) Based on appraisal of pre-feasibility report submitted by Government of Bihar, Central Water Commission (CWC) under this Ministry had, in the year 2012, conveyed its in-principle consent for preparation of detailed project report (DPR) of the Baksauti barrage project. Accordingly, the DPR of “Baksauti barrage scheme on river Sakri and conversion of Nata weir to a barrage on river Nata in Nawada district with suitable link from Sakri to Nata river from Baksauti barrage site” was submitted by Government of Bihar to CWC in the year 2014.

As per appraisal norms of CWC, a copy of the DPR was shared for comments, if any, with the co-basin State of Jharkhand. However, Govt. of Jharkhand did not agree to the project proposal, citing its requirement of the Sakri river waters for drinking/ agricultural/ industrial needs.

Subsequently, several meetings were held by CWC with the States of Bihar & Jharkhand, to facilitate convergence between the two States on the project. In the last meeting held in June, 2018, it was decided Bihar would recast the DPR restricting the surface water utilization from Sakri sub-basin to 159.2 million cubic meter (MCM). The balance water requirement for the project was proposed to be met through 75% monsoon yield of Nata river (16.59 MCM) at existing Nata weir, and through conjunctive use. However, Government of Bihar is yet to submit the re-casted DPR to CWC for appraisal.

(c) & (d) As per the information submitted in the DPR, the proposed project envisaged irrigation benefits in Nawada, Jamui & Sheikhpura districts of Bihar.

Further, CWC guidelines for appraisal indicate a time span of 4-6 months for appraisal of major/ medium irrigation projects, provided the DPR is per CWC norms, and the compliances / additional information sought by CWC during appraisal are provided promptly by the State Government. However, as mentioned above, the re-casted DPR for the project is yet to be submitted by Government of Bihar.
