# **GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

### MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

# DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

# **LOK SABHA**

# **UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1067**

ANSWERED ON 08.02.2024

# IRRIGATION PROJECTS IN KARNATAKA

### 1067. SHRI PRAJWAL REVANNA

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of Mekedatu, Upper Bhadra and Ettinahole irrigation and drinking water projects in the State of Karnataka;
- (b) whether the Government has declared Upper Bhadra Project (UBP) as national irrigation project and if so, the details thereof along with the funds earmarked and released so far; and
- (c) whether the forest clearance has been obtained for Mekedatu project and if so, the details thereof?

# **ANSWER**

#### THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) & (b) Mekadatu Project- The 'in-principle' clearance to the Feasibility Report (FR) of the Mekedatu Balancing Reservoir cum Drinking Water Project, Karnataka for preparation of the Detailed Project Report (DPR) was accorded by the Central Water Commission (CWC) on 24.10.2018, with conditions conforming to the Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal (CWDT) Award (as modified by the Hon'ble Supreme Court) and the acceptance of Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA), before the same was referred for consideration by the Advisory Committee of DoWR, RD & GR". Subsequently, the DPR of the Mekedatu Balancing Reservoir cum Drinking Water Project, submitted by the Government of Karnataka in January 2019 was referred to CWMA by CWC. The discussion on the DPR of the Mekedatu Project was included as an agenda item in various meetings of CWMA. However, discussion on the DPR could not be taken up due to the lack of consensus among the Party States.

The discussion on the DPR of the Mekedatu Balancing Reservoir cum Drinking Water Project was included in the latest 28<sup>th</sup> meeting of CWMA held on 01.02.2024. Taking into account the views of the majority of the Members of the CWMA, the Authority has decided to concur for referring back the project to CWC for examination of various technical/economical aspects of the project for establishing its feasibility and further necessary action at their end.

**Upper Bhadra Project-** The Upper Bhadra Project is a major lift irrigation scheme of Government of Karnataka. The entire command of the project being proposed to be irrigated through micro irrigation promoting water use efficiency. The project has not been declared as national irrigation project. The approved cost of this project is ₹16,125.48 crore (at 2018-19 price level index) which includes central assistance of ₹5,300 crore.

(c) The Ministry of Environment and Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has not granted forest clearance to the Mekedatu Project under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.