GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI, DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *62 ANSWERED ON 21.11.2019

CONSTRUCTION OF DAMS

*62. ADV. DEAN KURIAKOSE SHRI RAJMOHAN UNNITHAN

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal for construction of new dams in the country including Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the decision/action taken/being taken by the Government about building dams, especially in Kerala;

(c) whether the Government has given permission to conduct environment assessment study to construct a new dam in Mullaperiyar in Kerala;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether a joint team of Centre, Kerala and Tamil Nadu recently visited Mullaperiyar dam to assess the strength of the existing dam and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION No. *62 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 21.11.2019 REGARDING "CONSTRUCTION OF DAMS" ASKED BY ADV. DEAN KURIAKOSE & SHRI RAJMOHAN UNNITHAN, M.P.

(a) & (b) Major & Medium irrigation projects and Multi-purpose projects located on inter-state rivers, or such projects where State Government desires to avail of assistance from Govt. of India, are submitted by State Government to the Central Water Commission (CWC) for techno-economic appraisal and acceptance by Advisory Committee on Irrigation, Flood Control & Multipurpose Projects of Ministry of Jal Shakti.

As intimated by CWC, **13** Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) involving construction of new dams (including Attappady Valley Irrigation Project (AVIP) of Kerala State) were **received** for appraisal during last 3 years beginning from April 2016. Out of these, **two** proposals were **accepted** by Advisory Committee after appraisal by CWC and **three** proposals including AVIP of Kerala have been **returned** to respective States with certain observations.

Further, Pre Feasibility Reports (PFR) of another **8** projects were received during the said period for in principle consent of Screening Committee of CWC for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) out of which **in principle consent** has been given for **two** project for preparation of DPR and **one** PFR has been **returned** with observations regarding interstate issues.

Acceptance of remaining proposals by Advisory Committee/Screening Committee of CWC depends upon satisfactory compliances by the concerned State Governments on the observations of CWC in this regard.

(c) & (d) As intimated by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF & CC), it has accorded Terms of References, vide letter dated 14.11.2018, for preconstruction activities for construction of a new dam to replace the existing Mullaperiyar Dam with certain conditions for preparation of Environmental Impact Assessment/Environmental Management Plan report.

(e) A three-member Supervisory Committee headed by Chief Engineer, Dam Safety Organization, Central Water Commission along with other two Members of the Committee from the States of Tamil Nadu and Kerala visited Mullaperiyar dam site on 04.06.2019 and held discussions on various dam related matters such as, instrumentation, installation of Inflow Forecast system in the catchment, finalization of rule curve etc.