

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI
DEPARTMENT OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1781
ANSWERED ON- 05/12/2024

STATUS OF KALASA-BHANDURA DRINKING WATER SCHEME

1781. SHRI JAGDISH SHETTAR:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to State:

- (a) the current status of implementation of the Kalasa-Bhandura Drinking Water Scheme envisaging the allocation of 3.90 TMC of water for diversion Mahadayi Basin to Malaprabha River for drinking water supply to the cities of Hubli-Dharwar and Kundgol town and several villages en-route it in Karnataka;
- (b) whether any clearances is awaiting for approval from other Central Ministries; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI
(SHRI V. SOMANNA)

(a) to (c) Since August 2019, Government of India, in partnership with States, is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)-Har Ghar Jal to enable every rural household in the country, to have assured potable water through tap connection. Drinking water is a State subject, and hence, the responsibility of planning, approval, implementation, operation, and maintenance of drinking water supply schemes, including those under the Jal Jeevan Mission, lies with the respective State/UT Governments. The Government of India supports the States by providing technical and financial assistance. As such details of individual projects/ schemes for rural water supply are not maintained at Government of India level.

As informed by the State Govt. of Karnataka, the present status of implementation of "Kalasa -Bhandura Drinking Water Scheme" is **annexed**.

Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation has informed that DPR of Kalasa Scheme and Bhandura Scheme were submitted on 23.11.2022 and 28.11.2022 respectively to Central Water Commission (CWC). Based on the technical appraisal by CWC, DPRs of both the schemes are found acceptable from Hydrology and inter-state aspects, subject to strict compliance of mandatory clearances as required by law.

Annex referred in the reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1781 answered on 05.12.2024

Present status of Implementation of Kalasa —Bhandura Drinking Water Scheme"

1. The "MAHADAYI WATER DISPUTES TRIBUNAL" (MWDT) has pronounced the award on 14.08.2018 and gazetted on 27.02.2020. The Tribunal allocated 3.90 TMC of water for diversion from Mahadayi Basin to Malaprabha River for drinking water purpose of Hubli-Dharwad twin cities, Kundagol Town and enroute villages, comprising of 1.72 TMC from Kalasa Nala and 2.18 TMC from Bhandura Nala.
2. The Central Water Commission (CWC) vide Office Memorandum Dtd: 29.12.2022 accorded clearance to the Modified Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of Kalasa & Bhandura Nala Diversion Schemes (Lift Schemes), subject to obtaining all mandatory clearances as required by law.
3. The Ministry of Jal Shakti has framed a Scheme to constitute Mahadayi PRAWAH (Progressive River Authority for Welfare and Harmony) vide gazette notification dated 22.05.2023 to give effect to the decision of the Mahadayi Water Disputes Tribunal.
4. Present Status of Forest/ Wildlife clearances from MoEF & CC is as under:

(a) Kalasa Nala Diversion Scheme (Lift Scheme):

- i. Upon submission of forest clearance proposal of Kalasa Nala Diversion project to MOEF & CC through PARIVESH Portal, which involves diversion of 26.925 Ha of forest land, the Regional Empowered Committee, IRO, MOEF & CC, Bangalore had directed the State of Karnataka vide dated 20.01.2023 to apply for Wildlife clearance from Standing Committee for National Board for Wildlife (NBWL), New Delhi for the Tiger Corridor passing through Kalasa Project which is about 10.685 Ha (out of 26.925 Ha of forest land).
- ii. Further the wildlife clearance proposal was submitted through PARIVESH portal on 31.05.2023. The Kalasa Wildlife clearance proposal was approved by the State Board for Wildlife with recommendation to NBWL seeking approval for the same.
- iii. In turn, NBWL referred the proposal to National Tiger Corridor Authority (NTCA) and a team was constituted on 29.11.2023 by NTCA to Cause Site appraisal. The team from NTCA conducted the Cause Site appraisal of the proposed Kalasa Project on 08.01.2024 and submitted the report to NTCA on 23.01.2024 with a recommendation in favour of Karnataka which is as under:

"Considering the larger benefits associated with the project (such as water availability to wildlife during summer period and ground water recharge), the Committee is of the opinion that implementation of the project may be recommended under Section 380(1)(g) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972."

But, NTCA has mentioned that the matter is subjudice as currently the matter is pending before the Hon'ble Supreme Court and therefore not provided any comment in the matter as such.

- iv. In 77th meeting of SC-NBWL held on 30.01.2024, the Standing Committee decided that the comments on the proposal shall be sought from the NTCA in accordance with Section 38-O(1)(g) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Accordingly, the proposal was deferred for the next meeting and the proposal was also deferred during the SC NBWL meeting held on 31.072024.
- v. Further, during 80th meeting of SC-NBWL held on 09.10.2024, the standing committee has instructed to submit the additional documents with current status of legal cases related to project. The required documents were submitted by Additional Chief Secretary, Forest, and Environment Department Karnataka to ADG (Wildlife), Member Secretary NBWL, New Delhi vide letter dated: 10.10.2024 and 15.10.2024.

(b) Bhandura Nala Diversion Scheme (Lift Scheme):

- i. The Forest Clearance proposal for Bhandura Nala Diversion project was submitted to MOEF & CC through PARIVESH Portal, which involves diversion of 28.4427 Ha of forest land as per the direction of the Regional Empowered Committee, IRO, MOEF & CC, Bangalore.
- ii. The Regional Empowered Committee, IRO, MOEF & CC, Bangalore has sought certain information through PARIVESH portal (EDS-Queries) dated: 25.08.2024. Further the information/ compliance for EDS-Queries was submitted through PARIVESH portal to MOEF & CC on 26.11.2024.