

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

LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. *257

ANSWERED ON 08.08.2024

UPPER BHADRA PROJECT

*257. DR. PRABHA MALLIKARJUN

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Union Government has sanctioned 5300 crore Central assistance to Upper Bhadra Project and not yet released any funds to the Government of Karnataka so far;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons for not releasing funds therefor;
- (c) whether the Union Government is aware that the completion of Upper Bhadra Project is expected to irrigate approximately 2.25 lakh hectares by filling 367 tanks through micro irrigation in drought prone districts of Central Karnataka viz. Davangere, Chikkamagaluru, Tumakuru and Chitradurga districts; and
- (d) if so, the time by which the aforesaid project would be completed?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI C R PAATIL)

(a) to (d) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. *257 TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.08.2024 IN LOK SABHA REGARDING “UPPER BHADRA PROJECT”

(a) & (b) Water being a State subject, mandate for planning, implementation and funding of irrigation projects lies in the domain of the State Government concerned. However, partial financial assistance to the identified irrigation projects is being provided by Government of India under its ongoing schemes. Apart from this, techno-economic appraisal of Inter-state medium and major irrigation projects is to be done by Central Water Commission under this Ministry.

Upper Bhadra Project of Karnataka is presently not included under any scheme of Government of India, thus there is no question of sanction of funds for the project.

However, techno-economic viability of the project was accepted by the concerned Committee of this Ministry and the project was appraised by Public Investment Board (PIB) which recommended central assistance of Rs. 5,300 crore to the project and the same was provisioned in the Union Budget 2023-24.

Thereafter, as per the request of the State Government in August, 2023, a proposal was taken up by Ministry of Jal Shakti for providing financial assistance under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana – Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme scheme (PMKSY-AIBP).

However, approval for inclusion of a project for partial financial assistance under the ongoing schemes of this Ministry requires compilation of updated financial details for the project, including the expenditure made, balance cost and the updated eligible central assistance based on the balance cost. Further, decision regarding inclusion of the project depends on the available funds, geographic distribution under the scheme, priority under the scheme, etc.

(c) Yes.

(d) As per information provided by the Government of Karnataka which is implementing the project, the project is targeted for completion by March, 2026.
