

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *244
ANSWERED ON 05.08.2021

MEKEDATU MULTIPURPOSE PROJECT

*244 SHRI PRAJWAL REVANNA

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of Mokedatu multipurpose drinking water and power project which involves building a balancing reservoir near Kanakapura in Ramanagara district of Karnataka;
- (b) the details of blueprint of the dam and the storage capacity of water;
- (c) the quantum of funds likely to be spent on the said project;
- (d) whether environmental and forestry clearances have been obtained for construction of Mokedatu dam across river Cauvery; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons for the delay, if any?

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 IN REPLY TO PARTs (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *244 TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.08.2021 ON “MEKEDATU MULTIPURPOSE PROJECT” RAISED BY SHRI PRAJWAL REVANNA.

(a) The Feasibility Report (FR) of Mokedatu Balancing Reservoir cum Drinking Water Project was submitted to Central Water Commission (CWC) by Government of Karnataka for according "in-principle" clearance for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) of the project. The Screening Committee of Central Water Commission in its meeting held on 24.10.2018 accorded “in-principle” clearance for preparation of DPR by project authority (Government of Karnataka) subject to certain conditions including that: *“As the main objective of this scheme as stated in the FR is to implement the Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal(CWDT) Award as modified by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, acceptance of Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) would be a pre-requisite for consideration of the DPR by the Advisory Committee of MoWR, RD & GR”.*

Subsequently, DPR of Mokedatu Balancing Reservoir cum Drinking Water Project was submitted by Government of Karnataka to CWC in January 2019 and copies of DPR were forwarded to Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA). Discussion on the DPR of the above project was included as an agenda item during various meetings of CWMA. However, discussion on this issue could not take place due to lack of consensus among party States on this agenda item.

(b) Details are given at **Annexure-I**.

(c) As per the DPR of Mokedatu Balancing Reservoir cum Drinking Water Project, submitted by Government of Karnataka in January 2019 to CWC, the estimated cost of the project is Rs 9000 crores (2018-19 Price Level).

(d) & (e) The above mentioned proposal submitted by Cauvery Neeravari Nigam Limited, Government of Karnataka to Ministry of Environment and Forests & Climate was considered during 25th Meeting of the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) for River Valley and Hydroelectric Projects held on 19.07.2019. The EAC deferred the project *inter-alia* stating that there were representations received from the Tamil Nadu State Government requesting not to grant ToR (Terms of Reference) to the present proposal. The EAC opined that an amicable solution be arrived at between the two states and thereafter put up for reconsideration for grant of ToR.

The Environmental Clearance under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 as amended, has not yet been accorded to this proposal by Ministry of Environment and Forests & Climate Change.

No proposal seeking prior approval of the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for non-forestry use of forest land for construction of Mokedatu Multipurpose Project, has been received by the Central Government.

ANNEXURE-I

Annexure referred to in reply to part ((b) of Starred Question No. *224 to be answered in Lok Sabha on 05.08.2021 regarding “MEKEDATU MULTIPURPOSE PROJECT”.

Details of project proposal as given in the DPR of Mekedatu Balancing Reservoir cum Drinking Water Project, Karnataka (submitted in January 2019 to CWC).

The Project envisages construction of Concrete Gravity Dam of height 99.0 m to be located about 2 km downstream of confluence of Arkavathy with Cauvery River and upstream of start of interstate boundary of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

As per the DPR, the capacity at full reservoir level (FRL) is 1901.97 MCM (67.16 TMC). The dam will have live storage capacity of 1683.90 MCM (59.46 TMC) between FRL 440.0 m and MDDL* 395.0 m.

The Project envisages meeting drinking water requirement of Bengaluru Metropolitan Region to the extent of 4.75 TMC and its adjoining area. It also envisages power generation of 400 MW (3 Units of 120 MW each and 1 Unit of 40 MW) by utilizing the available fall in the bed level between the Mekedatu Site and Biligundlu.

**MDDL- Minimum Draw Down Level*
