

[English]

Southern Water Grid

*567. SHRI A. VENKATA REDDY:
KUMARI PADAMASREE
KUDUMULA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether experts on water resources management have recommended to the Government to formulate Southern Water Grid for better utilisation of water;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendation made to the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the reaction of the State Government has been sought thereon;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the recommendations accepted by the Union Government; and

(e) the benefits to accrue to the respective States, particularly to Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b). Suggestion for a National Water Grid including inter-linking of southern river have been received from individuals and organisations from time to time. Keeping in view the objectives of optimum utilisation of available water resources, a National perspective plan for water resources development was prepared by the Government. It also envisages linking of various peninsular rivers for transferring waters from water rich basins to water deficit basins.

National Water Development Agency, established under the Ministry of Water Resources to work out the further details of the National perspective plan, has already

completed preliminary feasibility reports of (1) Mahanadi-Godavari link, (2) Godavari (Inchampalli) - Krishna (Pulchintala) link (3) Godavari (Polavaram) - Krishna (Vijayawada) link, (4) Ken - Betwa link, (5) Pamba - Achenkovil - Vaigai link, (6) Par - Tapi link, (7) Kalisindh - Chambal link and have found them worth further consideration and detailing.

(c) 7 pre-feasibility reports of link and 110 water balance studies pertaining to basins/ sub-basins have been sent to the basin States for their comments and observations. The State Government have furnished their comments on some of the studies.

(d) After taking into account the responses received from the State, preparation of detailed feasibility report has been taken up for (i) Par-Tapi - Narmada link; (ii) Pamba - Achenkovil - Vaigai link; and (iii) Ken-Betwa link

(e) From the Mahandi - Godavari and Godavari - Krishna links, the following benefits are anticipated: -

- (i) Annual irrigation of about 3.5 lakh hectares in Manibhadra command in the districts of Puri, Cuttack, Phulbani and Ganjam of Orissa.
- (ii) Annual irrigation of 1.05 lakh hectares in Srikakulam and Visakhapatnam districts of Andhra Pradesh.
- (iii) Annual irrigation of 2.23 lakh hectares in West Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh.
- (iv) Annual irrigation of 1.18 lakh hectares in Nagarjuna Sagar command in west Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh.

- (v) Annual irrigation of 3.20 lakh hectares in Warangal and Nalgonda district of Andhra Pradesh.

The details of benefits in drought prone areas of Rayalaseema and water short basins of Pennar, Cauvery and Vaigai will be known after the feasibility of remaining components of link between Krishna - Penner - Cauvery - Vaigai are completed during the VIII Year Plan.

Foreign Assistance for Thermal Power Projects

*568. SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KONATHALA: Will the Minister of POWER NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any financial assistances has been sought from international financial institutions for thermal power projects;

(b) whether these projects have been cleared by these institutions; and

(c) if so, the names of such financial institutions and amount of assistance proposed to be given for each of such projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). A list of power projects for which negotiations are being held with international financial institutions is given below. Amount of assistance for each project will be known only after the negotiation is completed.