Centre okays dam on Ravi, will cut water flow to Pak

Times News Network

New Delhi: The Centre on Thursday approved implementation of the Shahpurkandi Dam project on the Ravi in Punjab. The move will allow India to use the water which at present goes “waste” flowing through the Madhopur Headworks downstream to Pakistan. Once completed in June 2022, it will improve irrigation potential of farmers in Jammu & Kashmir and Punjab.

Though the project was planned 17 years ago at an estimated cost of over Rs 2,285 crore, it could not be implemented due to paucity of funds with the state. The Centre will provide financial assistance of over Rs 485 crore (for the irrigation component) to the state for implementing the project over five years from 2018-19 to 2022-23.

The decision in this regard was taken by the Union Cabinet, keeping in view the provisions of the Indus Water Treaty. Under this 1960 treaty, India has full rights for utilisation of waters of the three eastern rivers Ravi, Beas and Satluj. The project will create an additional irrigation potential of 5,000 hectares in Punjab and 32,173 hectares in J&K. In addition, Punjab will also be able to generate 206 MW of hydro-power.

The project was initially approved by the Planning Commission in November 2001 and was included under the accelerated irrigation benefits scheme of the water resources ministry for funding its irrigation component.

Revised cost of the project was approved by the advisory committee of the ministry in August 2009. Work on the project could not progress much due to non-availability of funds on the part of the Punjab government for the power component and later due to inter-state issues with J&K.
Cabinet revives dam project on Ravi in Punjab

HTC and Agencies

NEW DELHI: The cabinet on Thursday approved the Shahpurkandi dam project on the Ravi river in Punjab, a move that will help arrest India’s shared water flowing into Pakistan, a statement said. For this, a central assistance of Rs 485.38 crore — for irrigation component — would be provided over five years from 2018-19 to 2022-23.

The Indus Waters Treaty was signed between India and Pakistan in 1960 for sharing of Indus waters. According to the treaty, India got the full rights for utilisation of waters of the three eastern rivers — Ravi, Beas and Sutlej.

"Some of the water of the Ravi river at present is going waste through the Madhopur Headworks downstream to Pakistan. Implementation of the project would minimise such wastage of water," the statement said.

The project will eventually enable the up-stream Ranjit Sagar Dam project power station to act as a peaking station, besides having its own generation capacity of 266 MW and irrigation benefit of 37,173-hectare to Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir. The work on the project began in 2013, but came to a halt over certain issues raised by J&K.

JALLIANWALA TRUST

The cabinet also approved a proposal to replace Congress member in a trust that runs the Jallianwala Bagh National Memorial with leader of the single-largest opposition party in the Lok Sabha to make the body "apolitical". The move will require amendment to the Jallianwala Bagh National Memorial Act, 1951. An amendment bill could be brought in Parliament in the winter session beginning December 11.

Briefing reporters on the decisions, finance minister Arun Jaitley said the trust is perhaps the only government body where a member is from one political party. "The decision aims to suitably amend the Jallianwala Bagh National Memorial Act, 1951 so as to secure representation as trustees, the Leader of Opposition recognised as such in the House of the People (Lok Sabha), or where there is no such Leader of Opposition, then the Leader of the single largest Opposition party in the House," an official statement said. As of now, the trust which manages the memorial, has the Prime Minister as the chairperson, President of Indian National Congress, Culture Minister, Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Punjab governor, Punjab CM as its members.

INTERDISCIPLINARY MISSION

The cabinet okayed the launching of the National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems. The plan will be implemented by the department of science and technology at a total outlay of Rs 660 crore for a period of five years. The mission looks to establish 15 Technology Innovation Hubs, six Application Innovation Hubs and four Technology Translation Research Parks. These will connect to academics, industry, ministries and states to develop solutions at reputed academic, research and development and other organisations.

The mission addresses technological requirements and takes into account global trends and road maps of leading countries, an official statement said.

Jaitley told the press conference that the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs had also given its "in principle" approval for strategic sale of the government’s existing 52.63% of total paid up equity shares in Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) to Power Finance Corporation (PFC) along with transfer of management control.
Centre clears decks for Shahpur Kandi Dam

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 6
The government today cleared a proposal to implement the Shahpur Kandi Dam Project in Punjab on the Ravi for which Central assistance of Rs 485.38 crore would be provided over five years from 2018-19 to 2022-23.

Finance Minister Arun Jaitley said: “The project was cleared by the Union Cabinet, which will minimise some of the water of the Ravi, currently going waste through the Madhopur Headworks downstream to Pakistan.”

Jaitley said the project would be implemented by the Punjab Government with Central assistance of Rs 485.38 crore and would be completed by June 2022.

He said on the completion of the project, “an irrigation potential of 5,000 hectare area (ha) in Punjab and 32,173 ha in Jammu and Kashmir would be created. Funding for Central assistance shall be made through NABARD”.

The Indus Waters Treaty was signed between India and Pakistan in 1960 for sharing of Indus waters. — TNS
Cabinet OK's Shahpurkandi dam project on Ravi river

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Cabinet on Thursday approved the Shahpurkandi dam project on the Ravi river in Punjab, a move that will help arrest India's share of water flowing into Pakistan, a statement said.

For this, a central assistance of ₹485.38 crore — for irrigation component — would be provided over five years from 2018-19 to 2022-23.

The Indus Waters Treaty was signed between India and Pakistan in 1960 for sharing of Indus waters. According to the Treaty, India got the full rights for utilisation of waters of the three eastern rivers — Ravi, Beas and Satluj.

"Some of the water of the Ravi river at present is going waste through the Madhopur Headworks downstream to Pakistan. Implementation of the project would minimise such wastage of water," the statement said.

In September, the Punjab and the Jammu and Kashmir governments signed an agreement to resume works on the ₹2,793-crore Shahpurkandi project.
शाहपुरकंडी डैम को मंजूरी
केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने पंजाब में रावी नदी पर बनने वाले शाहपुरकंडी डैम प्रोजेक्ट को मंजूरी दे दी है।

इस फैसले से भारत को पाकिस्तान की ओर जाने वाले पानी पर नियंत्रण पाने में मदद मिलेगी। केंद्र सरकार ने इसके लिए अगले पाँच वर्ष तक जारी सिंचाई मद से 458.38 करोड़ रुपये देने का फैसला किया है।

सिंधु नदी के जल बंतवारे के लिए भारत और पाकिस्तान के बीच 1960 में सिंधु जल संधि पर हस्ताक्षर किए गए थे। इस संधि के मुताबिक भारत को तीन मुख्य नदियों-रावी, व्यास और सतलुज के पानी का इस्तेमाल करने का पूरा अधिकार है।
Cabinet approves ₹486-cr dam project in Punjab

Cyber tech mission also gets the nod

OUR BUREAU
New Delhi, December 6
The Union Cabinet has approved implementation of the Shahpurkandi Dam Project on the Ravi River in Punjab.

An official statement said, “For this, a Central assistance of ₹485.38 crore (for irrigation) would be provided over five years from 2018-2019 to 2022-2023. Implementation of this project will help minimising some of the water of the River Ravi which at present is going waste through the Madhopur Headworks downstream to Pakistan.”

On completion of the project, an irrigation potential of 5,000 ha in Punjab and 32,173 ha in Jammu and Kashmir would be created. The funding for Central assistance to Shahpurkandi Dam project shall be made through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development under existing system for funding of 99 Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana – Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme projects under Long-Term Irrigation Fund.

Cyber-physical systems
The Cabinet also approved the launch of National Mission on Inter-disciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems (NM-ICPS) to be implemented by the Department of Science and Technology at a total outlay of ₹3,660 crore over five years.

An official statement said, “The NM-ICPS would address technology development, application development, human resource development & skill enhancement, entrepreneurship and start-up development in cyber physical systems and associated technologies.”

“The mission aims to establish 15 technology innovation hubs, six application Innovation Hubs and four Technology Translation Research Parks...it is estimated that, about 40,000 jobs will be created in the short term and about 2,00,000 in long term.”

The Cabinet also approved a host of Memoranda of Understanding such as one between India and France for energy efficiency and conservation and between India and Tajikistan on Cooperation on Peaceful uses of Space Technology for Development and others.