

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1209

ANSWERED ON 31.07.2023

IRRIGATION PROJECTS IN MAHARASHTRA

1209. SHRI ANIL DESAI

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a large number of farmers in Maharashtra are not in a position to cultivate their land because there is not sufficient water available for irrigation;
- (b) details of the irrigation schemes which have been planned and implemented during the last five years;
- (c) the progress therein and the number of farmers' land that will be benefited; and
- (d) whether Government is aware about any corruption reported in media about any irrigation project in Maharashtra, if so, details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) In 1994, a Technical Committee under chairmanship of Professor C.H. Hanumantha Rao was appointed to appraise the impact of Drought Prone Area Programme and Desert Development Programme (DPAP and DDP), and suggest measures for improvement. As per the report of the Committee, about 19.45 million hectare in Maharashtra, which is about 2/3rd of the geographic area of the State, has been considered as drought prone.

(b) & (c) Water resources projects are planned, funded, executed, and maintained by the State Governments themselves as per their own resources and priorities. Further, details regarding these irrigation schemes are maintained by the State Governments themselves. Role of Government of India is limited to providing technical support and, in some cases, partial financial assistance under the existing schemes being implemented by this Ministry.

Details of irrigation projects implemented in Maharashtra during last five years under different schemes of Government of India, are given below.

Sl.No.	Name of the scheme	Number of projects completed	Irrigation potential created (thousand hectare)	Number of farmer's land benefitted (in thousands)
1.	Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) – Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme with pari passu implementation of Command Area Development & Water Management	6	247.33	185.96*
2.	PMKSY- Watershed Development	6,957**	55.18 ^{\$}	98.64
3.	PMKSY-Per Drop More Crop	Not applicable	662.803 [@]	498.35*
4.	Special Package for irrigation project to address agrarian distress in 14 suicide prone district of Vidarbha and Marathwada and other chronically drought prone areas of rest of Maharashtra	41	127.67	95.99*

* estimated on the basis of average holding of Maharashtra to 1.33 hectare, as per the latest Agriculture Census 2015-16.

** Number of Water harvesting structures created/rejuvenated.

^{\$} Area brought under protective irrigation.

[@] Area brought under micro irrigation

(d) Implementation of irrigation projects, including the associated vigilance related measures and taking cognizance and appropriate addressing of corruption related issues, lies in the domain of the State Government.
