

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 414

ANSWERED ON 24.07.2023

IRRIGATED LAND IN MAHARASHTRA

414. SHRI ANIL DESAI

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

- (a) how much agricultural land is under irrigation in the country;
- (b) the percentage of such irrigated land in Maharashtra; and
- (c) the planning of Jal Shakti Ministry to expand the area of irrigated land in the country in next five years?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) & (b) As per the latest data for the year 2020-2021 available with Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, the net irrigated area in the country is 77,729 thousand hectare. Out of this, net irrigated area reported in Maharashtra is 3,114 thousand hectare. Thus percentage of the net irrigated area in Maharashtra, against the net irrigated area in the country is about 4 %.

(c) This Ministry is mandated to provide technical support to the State Governments, and partial financial assistance under its ongoing schemes to the identified irrigation projects. Further, techno-economic appraisal of major and medium irrigation projects on inter-State river systems is to be undertaken by Central Water Commission under this Ministry. However, planning, implementation and operation & maintenance of such irrigation projects lie in the domain of the State Government concerned.

Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) was launched during the year 2015-16, with an aim to enhance physical access of water on farm and expand cultivable area under assured irrigation, improve on-farm water use efficiency, introduce sustainable water conservation practices, etc. It is an umbrella scheme, consisting of two major components being implemented by this Ministry, namely, Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP), and Har Khet Ko Pani (HKKP). HKKP, in turn, consists of four sub-components, being Command Area Development & Water Management (CAD&WM), Surface Minor Irrigation (SMI), Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies, and Ground Water (GW) Development component.

The extension of PMKSY for the period 2021-22 to 2025-26 has been approved with the following targets for the components being implemented by Ministry of Jal Shakti:

i. AIBP including CAD&WM: Creation of 13.88 lakh hectare irrigation potential through completion of major and medium irrigation projects under AIBP and 30.23 lakh cultivable command area coverage under CAD&WM during 2021-22 to 2025-26. This also includes some of the National projects viz. Saryu Nahar Pariyojana, Gosikhurd project, Renuka ji dam project, and Lakhwar multipurpose project, which are being funded under PMKSY-AIBP

ii. PMKSY-HKPP: Creation of 3.7 lakh hectare of irrigation potential through ongoing projects and taking up new projects to create 0.8 lakh hectare of irrigation potential for coverage through surface minor irrigation and repair, renovation and restoration of water bodies during 2021-22 to 2025-26. In addition, implementation of ground water component is targeted to benefit 82,290 hectare irrigation.

Apart from the above, one National project viz. Shahpur Kandi dam project, is also being funded under PMKSY-AIBP as a special project, targeting irrigation to about 37 thousand hectare. Further, Polavaram irrigation project (National project) is being funded separately through this Ministry for creation of additional irrigation potential of 2.91 lakh hectare. Also, Ken-Betwa link project has been taken up by Government of India in December, 2021 for development/stabilization of irrigation potential to the tune of 10.62 lakh hectare, along with drinking water supply and power benefits.

In addition, a special package has been taken up for financial assistance by Government of India in July, 2018 for completion of 83 surface minor irrigation (SMI) projects and 8 major / medium irrigation projects in drought prone districts in Vidarbha and Marathwada and rest of Maharashtra in phases. Out of these, 41 SMI projects have been reported to be completed. 3.77 lakh hectare irrigation potential has been targeted to be created under this scheme, out of which 1.77 lakh hectare irrigation potential has been created till March, 2023.

In addition, Government of India has approved Relining of Sirhind Feeder (RD 1,19,700 to 4,47,927) and relining of Rajasthan Feeder (RD 1,79,000 to 4,96,000) in September, 2018, for stabilization of irrigation in 1.68 lakh hectare.
