

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 836**

ANSWERED ON 07.12.2023

**IRRIGATION CANALS**

†836. SHRI RAHUL KASWAN

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to provide water to every farmer's field for irrigation by constructing canals and connecting rivers through a new scheme under the Ministry;
- (b) if so, the details and current status thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any research to improve the quality of drinking water, especially in rural areas and to prevent dumping of chemicals, garbage and other waste materials into the canals; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI**

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

**(a) & (b)** 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 the Ministry of Jal Shakti, namely, Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP), and Har Khet Ko Pani (HKKP). HKKP, in turn, consists of four sub-components: (i) Command Area Development & Water Management (CAD&WM); (ii) Surface Minor Irrigation (SMI); (iii) Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies; and (iv) Ground Water (GW) Development. In addition, PMKSY has Watershed Development (WD) component which is being implemented by Department of Land Resources. Further, during the period 2015-22, Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) component was also being implemented by Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (DoA&FW) under PMKSY.

Further, in December, 2021, implementation of PMKSY for the period 2021-22 to 2025-26 has been approved by Government of India. However, Ground Water component under PMKSY-HKKP has provisionally been accorded for 2021-22, which was extended subsequently till completion of ongoing works and liabilities. Also, Per Drop More Crop component, which was earlier a component of PMKSY, is now being implemented separately by DoA&FW.

Apart from PMKSY, financial assistance is also being provided by this Ministry for creation/stabilization of irrigation potential for the identified water resources projects under National project scheme, and also as special projects. These include Lakhwar multipurpose project, Shahpur Kandi dam

project, Polavaram (National) irrigation project, Relining of identified stretches of Rajasthan Feeder and Sirhind Feeder of Punjab, North Koel reservoir project and Ken-Betwa river interlinking project.

In addition, in July, 2018, Government of India has approved a special package for Maharashtra whereby financial assistance is being provided to 83 surface minor irrigation (SMI) projects and 8 major / medium irrigation projects in drought prone districts in Vidarbha and Marathwada and rest of Maharashtra.

Current status of irrigation potential created under the above-referred schemes till March, 2023 is tabulated below:

<b>Schemes</b>	<b>Irrigation potential created during 2016-23 (in thousand hectare)</b>
PMKSY-AIBP with pari passu implementation of CAD&WM (including National projects)	2,536.05
PMKSY- HKKP- SMI and RRR of water bodies	366.29
PMKSY-HKKP – GW Development	87.24
PMKSY- Per Drop More Crop (micro irrigation coverage)	7,274.75
PMKSY-Watershed Development (area brought under assured irrigation)	1,264.74
Special projects	127.66
Special Package for Maharashtra	161.00

**(c) & (d)** Government of India is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) – Har Ghar Jal, since August, 2019, in partnership with States, to make provision of potable tap water supply in adequate quantity, of prescribed quality and on regular & long-term basis to every rural household. Under Jal Jeevan Mission, as per existing guidelines, IS:10500 is to be adopted for ensuring safe drinking water supply and States/ UTs have been advised to carry out testing of drinking water sources once in year for chemical and physical parameters, and twice in a year for bacteriological parameters. To enable States/ UTs to test water samples for water quality, and for sample collection, reporting, monitoring and surveillance of drinking water sources, an online JJM – Water Quality Management Information System (WQMIS) portal has been developed. States/ UTs have been advised to identify and train 5 persons, preferably women, from every village to conduct water quality testing using field testing kits/ bacteriological vials at village level and report the same on the WQMIS portal.

Further, National Centre for Drinking Water, Sanitation and Quality (NCDWSQ) has been set up at Kolkata, West Bengal with the aim, inter alia, to work in the area of identification, mitigation and management of drinking water quality related problems in India, with a focus, among other contaminants, on arsenic and fluoride to cater to both rural and urban water supply.

As far as prevention of dumping of chemicals, garbage and other waste material into the canals is concerned, the same lies in the domain of the State Governments concerned. Further, as per the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution), Act 1974, industrial units and local bodies are required to install effluent treatment plants (ETPs)/ common effluent treatment plants (CETPs) and Sewage treatment plants (STPs) and treat their effluent/ sewage to comply with stipulated environmental standards before discharging into river and water bodies.