

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 609

ANSWERED ON 06.02.2025

"PRAKASHA-BURAI LIFT IRRIGATION PROJECT" IN NANDURBAR, MAHARASHTRA

†609. ADV GOWAAL KAGADA PADAVI

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the "Prakasha-Burai Lift Irrigation Project" in the Nandurbar taluka and district of Maharashtra has been pending for a long time and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the entire Nandurbar taluka and neighbouring talukas are gradually becoming drought-prone areas due to the water scarcity issue and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any plan to allocate and release 40% or more of the required funds for this project by considering the remaining funds to be provided by the Maharashtra State Government and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the funds have been allocated and distributed for the said project and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether any steps have been taken to prevent the Nandurbar Lok Sabha Constituency from being classified as a drought-prone area and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) to (d) Water being a State subject, it is for the State Government concerned to plan, execute, operate and manage the irrigation projects, and to prepare action plan to make irrigation system more extensive in the State. Role of Government of India is limited to providing technical support, and partial financial assistance for identified projects under the ongoing schemes. Further, for major and medium irrigation projects on inter-State river systems, techno-economic viability is to be appraised by Central Water Commission (CWC) under this Ministry.

Prakasha-Burai Lift Irrigation Project in Nadurbar taluka and district of Maharashtra is being constructed by Government of Maharashtra from their own financial resources. Government of Maharashtra has intimated that revised administrative approval for the project amounting to Rs. 793.95 crore has been accorded in March, 2024. Expenditure incurred on the project till date is Rs. 121.94 crore. The project has potential to irrigate 7,085 hectare drought prone area of Nandurbar and Dhule districts of Maharashtra.

No proposal for central assistance to Prakasha-Burai Lift Irrigation Project has been received in this Ministry from Government of Maharashtra.

Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) monitors groundwater levels throughout the country on a regional scale including Nandurbar district of Maharashtra, four times, every year. The district-wise water level measured for the Month of November 2024 for Nandurbar district of Maharashtra is given in **Annexure**. The perusal of data indicates that in Nandurbar district, approximately 84% of the analyzed wells fall within the 0-10 mbgl range.

The long term fluctuation in ground water level as indicated by decadal fluctuation, i.e., November, 2024 compared with the decadal mean of November water levels of ten years (2014-2023) indicate that 78% of well in Nandurbar District show rise in ground water levels. Decadal Water Level Fluctuation in respect of Nandurbar district of Maharashtra is also given in **Annexure**.

(e) Initiatives taken by Government of India for development of irrigation and augmentation of ground water in Nandurbar district of Maharashtra, is outlined below:-

1. Micro irrigation in an area of 18,461 hectares in Nandurbar district of Maharashtra has been developed under Per drop More Crop (PDMC) component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojna (PMKSY)
2. Four projects of Nandurbar district of Maharashtra with coverage of 16,383 hectares area has been sanctioned under Watershed Development (WD) component of PMKSY.
3. CGWB has completed the National Aquifer Mapping (NAQUIM) Project in the entire mappable area of about 25 lakh square kilometer including Nandurbar district of Maharashtra. The Aquifer maps and management plans have been prepared and shared with the respective State agencies for implementation. The management plans include various water conservation measures through demand side and supply side interventions.
4. As a capacity building under NAQUIM studies, a total of two Tier-III trainings (Block Level Training) with 237 participants were conducted in Nandurbar and Shahada talukas in 2019. One public interaction program has been organised in Shirpur taluka, Dhule district with 47 number of participants in 2021. One-day training workshop entitled “Hamara Jal– Hamara Jeevan” on the theme of ‘Water Management for Sustainable Development’ was conducted by the State agency during India Water Week-2015 (IWW-2015) in Nandurbar district.
5. CGWB has prepared a Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Groundwater- 2020 in consultation with States/UTs which is a macro level plan indicating various structures for the different terrain conditions of the country including estimated cost. The Master Plan envisages construction of about 1.42 crore rain water harvesting and artificial recharge structures in the country to harness 185 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) of monsoon rainfall. For Nandurbar district of Maharashtra, 25,755 nos. of rain water harvesting structure have been proposed in the Master Plan.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 609 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 06.02.2025 REGARDING ""PRAKASHA-BURAI LIFT IRRIGATION PROJECT" IN NANDURBAR, MAHARASHTRA".

A. Depth to Water Level Distribution of Percentage of Observation Wells Post-Monsoon 2024 in Nandurbar district of Maharashtra (Unconfined Aquifer)

District Name	No of well analysed	No./Percentage of wells showing depth to water level (mbgl) in the range of											
		0 to 2		2 to 5		5 to 10		10 to 20		20 to 40		> 40	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Nandurbar	19	1	5.3	13	68.4	2	10.5	3	15.8	0	0.0	0	0.0

B. Categorization of changes in water level between Mean of Post-monsoon 2014 to 2023 with Post-monsoon 2024 (Nandurbar district of Maharashtra)

District Name	No of wells analysed	No./Percentage of wells showing fluctuation to water level (m) in the range of											
		Rise						Fall					
		0 to 2		2 to 4		> 4		0 to 2		2 to 4		> 4	
Nandurbar	18	5	27.8	6	33.3	3	16.7	4	22.2	0	0	0	0
