

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 844

ANSWERED ON 23.07.2026

JAL SHAKTI PROJECTS IN TAMIL NADU

844. Dr. GANAPATHY RAJKUMAR P:

THIRU THANGA TAMILSELVAN:

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

- (a) the details of the total number of irrigation and drinking-water projects anticipated from ongoing Jal Shakti projects in southern Tamil Nadu including Theni district;
- (b) whether the Government has ever examined proposals for strengthening water-storage infrastructure in the Vaigai River Basin and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is extending any technical and financial support for modernization of canal networks and water-distribution systems serving farmers in Tamil Nadu including Theni district, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether the Government has taken any measures to improve water-use efficiency and micro-irrigation coverage in Theni and neighbouring districts of Theni Lok Sabha Constituency, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) Water, being State subject, water resources projects are planned, funded, executed and maintained by the State Governments themselves as per their own resources and priority. Role of Government of India is to provide technical support, and partial financial assistance for identified projects under ongoing schemes.

Under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana - Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (PMKSY-AIBP) component being implemented by the Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, one major irrigation project in Tamil Nadu namely “Formation of Flood Carrier Canal from Kannadian Channel to drought prone areas of Sathankulam, Thisayanvilai by interlinking Tamirabarani, Karumeniyar and Nambiyar rivers in Tirunelveli and Thoothukudi Districts in Tamil Nadu” has been taken up. Central assistance of Rs 34.7425 crores has been released for this project, and it has been reported as completed.

Under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana - Har Khet Ko Pani (PMKSY-HKPP) component being implemented by the Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga

Rejuvenation, the restoration of 645 water bodies/tanks has been taken up in Tamil Nadu, including one water body/tank in the Theni district. Central assistance of Rs 223.55 crores has been released for these water bodies/tanks, and 571 water bodies/tanks have been reported as completed.

As per information provided by the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, 90.88 lakh rural households in Tamil Nadu have been provided with tap water connections under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) - Har Ghar Jal. Further, Theni district has been certified as a Har Ghar Jal certified district i.e. all rural households in the district have tap water connections in their home.

(b) As informed by the Government of Tamil Nadu, proposals for strengthening water-storage infrastructure in the Vaigai River Basin have been examined by the State Government. A major proposal pertains to the desilting and restoration of the Vaigai Reservoir to recover the storage capacity lost due to sedimentation, which is to be implemented in a phased manner after obtaining the necessary statutory clearances.

(c) As informed by the Government of Tamil Nadu, modernization and rehabilitation of canal system and distribution systems were executed through various schemes such as NABARD, State-funded Comprehensive Water Resources Development Programme (CWRDP) and the Tamil Nadu Irrigated Agriculture Modernization Project (TNIAMP).

(d) Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare is implementing Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) Scheme earlier under PMKSY and now under Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY). PDMC focuses on enhancing water-use efficiency at farm level through micro irrigation namely Drip and Sprinkler Irrigation System. An area of 13,73,812 hectare has been brought under micro-irrigation in Tamil Nadu since 2015-16.
