

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1260
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2013
WATER LOGGED AREAS IN KARNATAKA
Vishwanath Shri katti Ramesh

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Soil Salinity Research Institute, Karnal, Haryana and University of Agriculture Sciences, Dharwad (Karnataka) have conducted the survey of agricultural land under water logging in Belgaum District in Krishna Basin of Karnataka;
- (b) if so, the details of the agricultural land water-logged under command area and non-command area in the said area and suggestions of experts for reclamation of water-logged, saline and alkaline areas;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to initiate steps for reclamation of waterlogged areas of command area and noncommand area in Krishna basin; and
- (d) if so, the allocation of funds for reclamation of water-logged area and the expenditure incurred during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

Answer

THE HON'BLE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) A team consisting of scientists from Central Soil Salinity Research Institute, Karnal, Haryana and University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad (Karnataka) visited the salt affected water-logged areas of Belgaum district on 11th September, 2013.

(b) The details of the water-logged/salt affected area gathered by the team from different sources are as given below:
Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has reported that about 17,153 ha land in Malprabha and 45,527 ha land in Ghatprabha projects is affected by water-logging/ soil salinisation resulting in partial/ total loss of crop productivity. Apart from the canal command area, 38,469 ha land mostly under sugarcane crop in non-command area in Belgaum district is also affected by water-logging/ soil salinisation.

Some important recommendations/ suggestions have been made by the team of experts are:

1. Already choked/ encroached surface/ field drains need to be cleared for improved surface drainage. Along with comprehensive planning and execution of surface drainage system at irrigation system level, it is needed to link sub-surface drainage system for disposal of salt load.
2. There is an urgent need to introduce drip irrigation system in sugarcane crop, particularly in the lift irrigated non-command areas, for minimizing water losses due to excessive irrigation.
3. CADA for Malprabha & Ghatprabha projects can take up reclamation programme within the canal command whereas Department of Agriculture, Karnataka can explore the option of funding through Raqshtriya Krishi Vikash Yojna (RKVY) to take up reclamation in non-command areas.
4. As most of the irrigation projects in Karnataka (Malprabha, Ghatprabha, Upper Krishna, Bhadra, Tungabhadra) are facing the problems of water-logging/ salinity, it is suggested that an expert agency (say Karnataka Land Reclamation and Development Corporation, KLRDC) be set up as in the states of Punjab (PLRDC), Haryana (HLRDC) and Uttar Pradesh (UPBSN) to tackle the problems of salinity/ alkalinity etc.

(c) Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India provide Central Assistance for reclamation of water logged area under CADWM programme in command areas. Scheme for Central Assistance of Rs.4.42 crore for reclamation of 1402.82 ha. and Rs. 31.76 crore for reclamation of 6968.65 ha have been sanctioned in 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively for Upper Krishna CAD Project. For non command areas, one pilot project titled "Development of waterlogged saline land through sub surface of drainage" benefiting parts of Belgaum District for 922 ha has been completed at the cost of Rs. 4.99 Cr. by Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India.

(d) 9 States are participating in the schemes for reclamation of water-logged areas under CADWM programme sanctioned by Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India for Central Assistance as per Annexure-I. In the last three years, only two States have claimed Central Assistance under the scheme as under:

Name of State	Year	No. of projects	CCA (ha.)	Amount (Rs. in Cr.)
Karnataka	2010-11	148	46951.44	106.11
	2011-12	74	1766.00	1.98
	2012-13	-	-	
	2013-14	-	-	
Maharashtra	2010-11	7	536.90	0.37
	2011-12	22	2957.28	10.11
	2012-13	-	-	
	2013-14	-	-	

No projects has been sanctioned as compliance from State Government after approval of Core Group of MoWR on CAD was not received

No proposal has been received from State Governments as per new Guidelines of CADWM Programme for 12th Plan approved recently.

No proposal has been received from State Government