

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES,
RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †569
ANSWERED ON 13.12.2018

WATER CRISIS IN MAHARASHTRA

†569. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Marathwada region of Maharashtra is facing water crisis again;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has sanctioned any projects to tackle water crisis of this region; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION & PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a) & (b) Central Water Commission (CWC) monitors live storage status of 91 reservoirs of the country and issues weekly bulletin on every Thursday. Out of these, 17 reservoirs are located in Maharashtra including two reservoirs i.e. Yeldari and Jayakwadi (Paithon) in Marathwada Region. As per latest reservoir storage bulletin dated 06.12.2018, live storage available in Yeldari reservoir is 8% of its live storage capacity which is 21% of live storage of average of last ten years and live storage available in Jayakwadi (Paithon) reservoir is 27% of its live storage capacity which is 57% of live storage of average of last ten years. The main reasons for the decline in storages are low rainfall in the catchment areas and various uses.

(c) & (d) During 2016-17, ninety-nine (99) on-going Major/Medium irrigation projects (including 26 irrigation projects of Maharashtra) under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)- Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP), having ultimate irrigation potential of 76.03 lakh ha and balance estimated cost of Rs.77595 cr. have been prioritized in consultation with States, for completion in phases up to December, 2019 along with their Command Area Development & Water Management (CADWM) works. Funding mechanism through NABARD has been approved by the Government for both Central and State share. Out of these, three projects viz. Nandur Madhmeshwar, Upper Kundalika and Lower Dudhna are located in the Marathwada region.

Further, Government of India sanctioned a special package for completion of Irrigation Projects to address agrarian distress in Vidarbha and Marathwada regions and other chronically drought prone areas of rest of Maharashtra during June, 2018. The package consists of 83 Surface Minor Irrigation (SMI) Projects and 8 Major and Medium Irrigation (MMI) Projects. The balance estimated cost of these projects is Rs.13651.61 Cr as on 01.04.2018 and Central Assistance (CA) component is Rs.3831.41 Cr.