



महाराष्ट्र जलसंपत्ती नियमन प्राधिकरण

(महाराष्ट्र जलसंपत्ती नियमन प्राधिकरण अधिनियम, २००५ चे कलम ३ अन्वये स्थापित वैधानिक प्राधिकरण)

Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority

(A Statutory Authority Established u/s 3 of Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority Act, 2005)



स्वातंत्र्याचा अमृत महोत्सव

File No. MWRRA/2022/PRCL/GMIDC/135/547

Date : 01/08/2023

To,

Executive Director,

Godavari Marathwada Irrigation Development Corporation,
1st floor, Sinchan Bhavan, Jalna Road,
Aurangabad-431 005.

Sub: Clearance of Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority (MWRRA) under Section 11(f) of MWRRA Act, 2005 to 4th Revised Administrative Approval of Babhali Medium Project, Taluka Dharmabad, District Nanded.

- Ref:**
- 1) का. सं. गोमपाविम, औरंगाबाद पत्र यांचे क्र. गोमपाविम/तां-३/बाभळी/सुप्रमा/९९३७ दि. १६/११/२०२२ .
 - 2) MWRRA's even letter No. 678 dated 22/11/2022.
 - 3) का. सं. गोमपाविम, औरंगाबाद पत्र यांचे क्र. गोमपाविम/तां-३/नांपामं/बाभळी मप्र/सुप्रमा/११०५१ दि. १६/१२/२०२२.
 - 4) MWRRA's even letter No. 57 dated 17/01/2023.
 - 5) का. सं. गोमपाविम, औरंगाबाद पत्र यांचे क्र. गोमपाविम/तां-३/नांपामं/बाभळी मप्र/सुप्रमा/१५०९ दि. १६/०२/२०२३.
 - 6) MWRRA's even letter No. 183 dated 14/03/2023.
 - 7) का. सं. गोमपाविम, औरंगाबाद पत्र यांचे क्र. गोमपाविम/तां-३/नांपामं/बाभळी मप्र/सुप्रमा/३०४९ दि. २८/०३/२०२३.

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Executive Director, Godavari Marathwada Irrigation Development Corporation, Aurangabad ("Project Proponent" for short) vide letter under Reference No. 1 had submitted the 4th Revised Administrative Approval (RAA) proposal of Babhali Medium Project, Taluka Dharmabad, District Nanded for the clearance of Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority ("Authority" for short) under Section 11(f) of the MWRRA Act, 2005 ("Act" for short). On scrutiny of the proposal, the Authority had called additional information vide letter under Reference No. 2, 4 & 6 which was submitted by Project Proponent vide letter under Reference No. 3, 5 & 7.

Babhali Barrage Medium Project proposed on Godavari River in Middle Godavari sub-basin of Godavari basin near village Babhali. An Administrative Approval (AA) has been accorded to the said Project on 10/03/1995 for Rs. 31.375 crores and it was proposed to irrigate 7995 ha with Gross Storage of 77.70 Million Cubic Meters (MCM). The State Government has further accorded 1st RAA to the said Project on 14/02/2003 for Rs. 92.60 crores and 2nd RAA was accorded on 25/11/2005 for Rs. 149.44 crores by the Project Proponent.

As Babhali Project stores 17.12 MCM water of Pochampad Project (Telangana State, on the downstream of Babhali Project), the same water has to be released for Pochampad Project. Due to this, farmers in the tail of backwater of the said Project will not get water for drinking and irrigation. Therefore, to overcome this, Project Proponent has proposed another Barrage on Godavari River in Middle Godavari sub-basin of Godavari basin near village Balegaon and accorded 3rd RAA to Babhali Project including Balegaon Barrage on 25/08/2009 for Rs. 473.93 crores. Accordingly, Babhali Project will irrigate 6395 ha with Live Storage of 55.49 MCM & Balegaon Barrage will irrigate 1600 ha with Live Storage of 37.48 MCM. Project Proponent, vide letter under reference No. 5, has submitted that as there is no change in irrigation potential & live storage of Babhali Barrage Medium Project (including Balegaon Barrage) at 2nd RAA & 3rd RAA stage, there was no need to obtain clearance from the Authority.

Vishnupuri Project, District Nanded, through canal & 4 Lift Irrigation Schemes (LIS), was having irrigable command area of 28,340 ha. Due to increasing non-irrigation demand of Vishnupuri Project, there was no water available for 4th LIS i.e. Kolambi LIS. The State Government has revised the water planning of Vishnupuri Project vide letter dated 16/10/2010 and shown Balegaon Barrage as water source for Kolambi LIS. Therefore, the Project Proponent has now prepared the 4th RAA proposal & proposed to increase the height of Balegaon Barrage by 1.20 meter and making 40.78 MCM Live Storage.

As per the 4th RAA proposal, Babhali Project's Barrages works are completed and partial storages were created. The said project needs to acquire total 549.41 ha private land, out of which 149.72 ha land has already been acquired. The said project received a regular budget & Rs. 507.34 crore has been spent till March 2022.

On scrutiny of the 4th RAA proposal of Babhali Medium Project, Taluka Dharmabad, District Nanded with respect to provisions in Section 11(f) of the Act & the policy of the Authority for clearance of projects under Section 11(f) of the MWRRRA Act which undergoes a change in scope, it is observed that;

- a) Total annual water use of Babhali Medium Project is 81.25 MCM, out of which 69.62 MCM for irrigation (including evaporation) [46.13 Babhali Barrage + 8.17 Balegaon Barrage + 15.32 Kolambi LIS] and 11.63 MCM for drinking.
- b) The Integrated State Water Plan (ISWP), approved by the State Water Council under Section 16(4) of the Act, has specified annual water utilization for the said project as 81.25 MCM on Page No. 49 of Volume II A of ISWP. However, there is discrepancy in the figures of irrigation and drinking water use. Therefore, Project Proponent must ensure that figures given in 4th RAA proposal for irrigation and drinking water use of said Project will be included in the next revision of ISWP.
- c) At the time of AA, Chief Engineer (Planning & Hydrology) Nashik had not given a water availability certificate to the said project. However, Chief Engineer (Hydrology & Dam Safety) Nashik vide letter dated 11/04/2022 had stated that at 75% dependability, 196.89 MCM & 171.13 MCM water is available the Balegaon Barrage & Babhali Barrage site respectively which is more than annual water use of the said project (81.25 MCM).
- d) As per the 4th RAA proposal, the cost of said Project is Rs. 771.20 crore based on Schedule of Rates for Year 2022-23 and the B/C ratio of said Project is 1.86 which is more than 1.50, norm for Medium Project.
- e) At the time of AA, the Ministry of Environment & Forest's (MoEF) Guidelines of 27/01/1994 are in force & the said project was not required Environment Clearance, as its cost was less than Rs. 50.00 crore. However, presently, MoEF's 14/08/2018's Guidelines in force and according to that, revision in Environment Clearance is required for increase in height of the said Project. The Project Proponent stated that said project does not involve the diversion of forest land.

f) At present, Hon'ble Governor's Directives for FY 2022-23 are not issued. However, Principal Secretary to the Hon'ble Governor, vide letter dated 06/07/2021, has directed that new proposal should be sanctioned if it fulfils conditions stated in the letter. However, this is a proposal of revised administrative approval. The Project Proponent, vide letter under Reference No. 3 submitted that the said Project is fulfilling all the conditions as there is no increase in irrigable command area, it will not create more backlog or disturb regional imbalance. The said project is an ongoing project, receives regular budget and it was proposed to complete in next two years.


Thus, the said proposal appears to be consistent with the mandatory requirements provided in Section 11(f) of the Act and the policy of the Authority for clearance of projects under Section 11(f) of the MWRRA Act which undergoes a change in scope.

Now, therefore, this Authority has directed me to convey you that as per Section 11(f) of the MWRRA Act 2005, the said proposal is suitable for clearance. Hence, it is cleared for 4th RAA proposal of Babhali Medium Project, Taluka Dharmabad, District Nanded.

Hence this communication.

(By the Order of the Authority)




(Dr. Ramnath Sonawane)
Secretary, MWRRA

Copy for information and necessary action to;

1. Additional Chief Secretary (WRP & D), Water Resources Department, Mantralaya, Madam Cama Road, Mumbai - 400 032
2. Principal Secretary to the Hon. Governor, Raj Bhavan, Malabar Hill, Mumbai - 400 035.
3. Chief Engineer, Water Resources Department, Sinchan Bhavan, Jalna Road, Aurangabad - 431 005.
4. Superintending Engineer, Nanded Irrigation Circle, Sinchan Bhavan, Workshop, Nanded - 431605.