

## 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)



File No. MWRRA/2023/PRCL/MKVDC/141/**718** 

Date: 20/10/2023

To,

## Executive Director,

Maharashtra Krishna Valley Development Corporation, Sinchan Bhavan, Barne Road, Mangalwar Peth, Pune - 411011.

Sub: Clearance of Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority (MWRRA) under Section 11(f) of MWRRA Act, 2005 to 1st Revised Administrative Approval of Late Balasaheb Thakare Lift Irrigation Scheme, Taluka Sangola, District Solapur.

- Ref:
- 1) ED, MKVDC, Pune Letter No. मकृखोविम/४०/(२७०/ २०२३)/ प्र.बां १/०३४३२ दि. २७/०६/२०२३
- 2) MWRRA even letter No. 497 dated 13/07/2023
- 3) ED, MKVDC, Pune Letter No. मकृखोविम/ ४०/(२७०/ २०२३)/ प्र.बां - १/०४०१८ दि. २१/०७/२०२३
- 4) ED, MKVDC, Pune Letter No. मकृखोविम/ ४०/(२७०/ २०२३)/ प्र.बां - १/०४५७३ दि. ११/०८/२०२३

Executive Director, Maharashtra Krishna Valley Development Corporation, Pune ("Project Proponent" for short) vide letter under Reference No. 1 had submitted the 1<sup>st</sup> Revised Administrative Approval (RAA) proposal of Late Balasaheb Thakare Lift Irrigation Scheme, Taluka Sangola, District Solapur 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 which was submitted by Project Proponent vide letter under Reference No. 3 & 4.

Late Balasaheb Thakare Lift Irrigation Scheme (LIS) is proposed to lift 2.00 Thousand Million Cubic feet (TMC) water from Bhima Right Bank Canal Ch. No. 62/810 to irrigate 13,055 ha of drought prone area in 12 villages of Sangola Taluka of Solapur district. The said project received Administrative Approval (AA) on 07/07/2000 for Rs. 7359.00 crore with annual water use of 2.00 TMC to irrigate 6,525 ha. As per AA, it was proposed to irrigate through open canal but in proposed 1st RAA proposal, it is proposed to irrigate through Pipe Distribution Network.

At present, work has not been commenced on this LIS. The said LIS requires 62.29 ha for land acquisition and no land has been acquired so far. As the ICA of said Project is increased from 6,525 ha to 13,055 ha i.e. 99.92% increase, the said Project requires this Authority's clearance as per Water Resources Department's Government Resolution dated 16/11/2016.

On scrutiny of the 1<sup>st</sup> RAA proposal of a Late Balasaheb Thakare Lift Irrigation Scheme with respect to provisions in the 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 undergo change in scope, it is observed that;

- a) The said Project is the part of Ujjani Project proposed in Krishna basin. The annual water use of said Project is 2.00 TMC to irrigate 13,055 ha.
- b) The Volume II B of Integrated State Water Plan (ISWP), approved by the State Water Council under Section 16(4) of the Act, specified annual water utilization is 56.64 Mm<sup>3</sup> on Page No. 49 of Volume II B of ISWP.
- c) At the time of AA, Chief Engineer (Planning & Hydrology) Nashik was not empowered to give water availability certificate to the project. But, State Government, vide its letter dated 20/10/2001 to Central Water Commission, New Delhi has informed that as per the Krishna Water Dispute Tribunal, out of 599 TMC of Maharashtra State share, Total 83.94 TMC combine water use is considered for Bhima (Ujjani) Project including Sina Madha, Dahigaon, Ashti, Shirapur, Ekrukh, Barshi, Sangola and Lakadi Nimbodi LIS. As per revised water planning of Bhima Project vide GR dated 06/10/2021, water allocation for Sangola LIS is 56.63 Mm³ i.e.

- 2.00 TMC. As water is allocated to said LIS in Tribunal and Government Resolution, there is no need of separate Water Availability Certificate.
- d) As per the 1<sup>st</sup> RAA proposal, the cost of said Project is Rs. 883.78 crore based on Schedule of Rates for Year 2022-23. The B/C ratio of said Project was 1.51 which is more than 1.50, a norm for Major Project. The Internal Rate of Return of said Project is 14.41% which is more than norm of 10%.
- e) The said LIS has received Environment Clearance on 11/06/2014 from the Environment department and MS, SEIAA. At present, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change's Guidelines of 14/08/2018 are inforce. As the command area of said LIS is increased, the Project Proponent must ensure that amendment / revision of Environment Clearance of said LIS will be obtained The Project Proponent stated that said LIS does not involve diversion of forest land.
- f) The said Project is an Ongoing Project and regular budget is being provided. The Hon. Governor's directives for year 2023-24 have not been issued yet. The Project Proponent, vide letter under Reference No. 3, has submitted the compliance in regards to Secretary to Hon. Governor's letter dated 06/07/2021 regarding directives of Hon. Governor on giving approval to new irrigation project. The Project Proponent stated that since the proposal of said LIS is a RAA proposal, the said conditions are not applicable to said LIS.

Thus, the said proposal appears to be in conformity with the 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 undergo Change in Scope.

Now, therefore, this Authority directed me to convey you that in view of SLTAC's recommendation, the Clearance under Section 11(f) of the MWRRA Act, 2005 is hereby given to the 1st RAA proposal of Late Balasaheb Thakare Lift Irrigation Scheme, Taluka Sangola, District Solapur subject to compliance of following;

a) The Project Proponent shall ensure that Environment Clearances required for said LIS will be obtained from Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, New Delhi before commencement of work. The copy of the same should be submitted to the Authority before commencement of work.

- b) The approval pertains only as per the requirements of the provisions of the Section 11(f) of the MWRRA Act. Thus, the financial procedure involved in the process of proposed Revised Administrative Approval of this project is to be seen by the Government.
- c) The Project Proponent and the Water Resources Department shall ensure that funds required for the said LIS are provided in each financial year for timely completion of the Project.
- d) As there is substantial increase in the area to be irrigated i.e. 13,055 ha, which is in the non-backlog area. The State Government should take this into consideration while calculating the backlog area for the State as a whole and ensure that this does not lead to creation of additional backlog and disturb regional imbalance.

Hence this communication.

(By the Order of the Authority)

(Dr. Ramnath Sonawane) Secretary, MWRRA

## Copy 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 (WR), Irrigation Department, Sinchan Bhavan, Barane Road, Mangalwar Peth, Pune 411 011.
- 4. Superintending Engineer, Bhima Canal Circle, Opposite Solapur Club, Solapur 413003.