



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)

No. MWRRRA/2024/PRCL/GMIDC/151/500

Date : 13/10/2025

To,

Executive Director,

Godavari Marathwada Irrigation Development Corporation,

1st floor, Sinchan Bhavan, Jalna Road,

Chhatrapati Sambhajanagar -431 005.

**Sub: MWRRRA Clearance under Section 11(f) of MWRRRA Act,
2005 to Administrative Approval proposal of Digras Storage
Tank, Taluka Hingoli, District Hingoli.**

- Ref :**
- 1) Executive Director, GMIDC, Chh. Sambhajanagar's letter
No. गोमपाविम/ तां-३/डिग्रस/४७७५ dated 12/06/2024
 - 2) MWRRRA's even Letter No. 401 dated 12/07/2024
 - 3) Executive Director, GMIDC, Chh. Sambhajanagar's letter
No. गोमपाविम/ तां-३/डिग्रस/६३८३ dated 06/08/2024 and ७२७९
dated 06/09/2024
 - 4) MWRRRA's even Letter No. 530 dated 10/09/2024
 - 5) Executive Director, GMIDC, Chh. Sambhajanagar's letter
No. गोमपाविम/ तां-३/डिग्रस/९९० dated 03/02/2025
 - 6) MWRRRA's even Letter No. 91 dated 17/02/2025
 - 7) Executive Director, GMIDC, Chh. Sambhajanagar's letter
No. गोमपाविम/ तां-३/डिग्रस/३२७५ dated 04/04/2025
 - 8) MWRRRA's even Letter No. 218 dated 28/04/2025
 - 9) Executive Director, GMIDC, Chh. Sambhajanagar's letter
No. गोमपाविम/ तां-३/धा-७५/७८७७ dated 25/09/2025

Executive Director, Godavari Marathwada Irrigation Development Corporation,
Chhatrapati Sambhajanagar ("Project Proponent" for short), vide letter under

Reference No. 1, submitted the Administrative Approval (AA) proposal of Digras Storage Tank, Taluka Hingoli, District Hingoli for clearance of Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority (MWRRA) under Section 11(f) of MWRRA Act, 2005. Upon scrutiny of the proposal, the Authority sought some additional information, as per letters under Reference Nos. 2, 4, 6 & 8. Requisite information was submitted by Project Proponent, vide letters under Reference Nos. 3, 5, 7, & 9.

Digras Storage Tank Project is proposed on local nalla near village Digras in Painganga Sub-basin of the Godavari Basin. Earthen Dam is 1378 meters long with 182 meters long Pondy type weir on Right side of the Dam. Gross Storage of the Project is 3.71 Million Cubic Meters (Mcum). Annual water utilisation of the Project is 3.80 Mcum, out of which 2.62 Mcum for Irrigation, 0.26 Mcum for Drinking and 0.92 Mcum for Evaporation. The Project needs to acquire 155.33 hectare of private land and will irrigate 603 hectare area. Total cost of the Project based upon Water Resources Department's Schedule of Rates of Year 2022-23 is Rs. 90.61 Crores. Hon'ble Governor accorded in principle approval to the Project vide letter No. RB/DB/e-19011 (135) (2025)/63 dated 23/01/2025.

On scrutiny of the AA proposal of Digras Storage Tank Project with respect to provisions under Section 11(f) of the MWRRA Act and policy of the Authority for clearance of projects under Section 11(f) of the MWRRA Act, it is observed that;

- a) Construction of 1378 meters long Earthen Dam is proposed with Gross Storage of 3.71 Mcum and annual water utilization of 3.80 Mcum including 2.62 Mcum - Irrigation, 0.26 Mcum - Drinking and 0.92 Mcum - Evaporation.
- b) Revised Integrated State Water Plan (ISWP), approved by the State Water Council in June 2024, under Section 16(4) of the Act, has mentioned Digras Project with its water use on Page No. 177 of Volume IIA of ISWP.
- c) Based on the Composite Schedule of Rates (CSR) for the Year 2022-23, the cost of the Project is Rs. 90.61 crores, Benefit-Cost Ratio is 1.25, which is more than 1.00 (Norm for Minor Projects) and Internal Rate of Return is 16.94% which is more than 12.00% (Norm for Minor Projects). The Project cost based on CSR for the Year 2022-23, Cost per Thousand Cubic Meters (TCM) is Rs. 2,44,229/- which is more than Rs. 1,05,019 (80% of 1,31,274), norm for Minor Projects as per Government Resolution dated 13/07/2018 based on CSR for the Year 2016-17. Thus, the Project does not satisfy the Cost per TCM norm. However, State Government vide letter No. संकिर्ण/२०२५/प्र.क्र.२९०/ २५/जसंअ dated

23/09/2025, issued following directions under Section 23 of the MWRRA Act, 2005;

“अ) सिंचन अनुशेष जिल्ह्यातील लघु प्रकल्पासाठी प्रति सघमी हा मापदंड शिथिल करण्याबाबत

राज्यामध्ये विदर्भातील अकोला व बुलढाणा तसेच मराठवाड्यातील हिंगोली या जिल्ह्यांमध्ये सिंचन अनुशेष शिल्लक आहे. या अनुशेष असलेल्या जिल्ह्यांमधील नवीन लघु पाटबंधारे (लपा) प्रकल्प लाभ-व्यय गुणोत्तर व आर्थिक परतावा दर या मापदंडात बसत आहेत. परंतु उपलब्ध प्रति सघमी मापदंड सन २०१६-१७ च्या दरसूचीवर आधारित असल्याने असे लपा प्रकल्प प्रति सघमी मापदंडात बसत नाहीत. लघु प्रकल्पास लागू असलेला प्रति सघमी हा मापदंड अद्यावत करण्याची कार्यवाही शासन स्तरावरून सुरु आहे.

सद्यस्थितीत, सिंचन अनुशेष जिल्ह्यातील अनुशेष दूर करण्याची निकड विचारात घेता, सिंचन अनुशेष जिल्ह्यातील लघु पाटबंधारे प्रकल्पासाठी प्रति सघमी हा मापदंड शिथिल करण्यात येत आहे.”

The Project is from Irrigation Backlog affected Hingoli District, the Cost per TCM norm for the Project is relaxed by the State Government. **Thus, the Project also fulfils criteria for economical viability.**

- d) Chief Engineer, Hydrology Project, Nashik, has given a water availability certificate of 3.80 Mcum at 50% dependability to the Project on 23/06/2009. **Thus, the Project fulfils criteria for hydrological viability.**
- e) As per the Notification of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi dated 14/08/2018, Environmental Clearance is not required for projects having less than 2000 hectare of Culturable Command Area (CCA). As the CCA of the Project is 663 hectare, Environment Clearance is not required for the Project. The Project Proponent submitted that the Project does not involve diversion of forest land.
- f) The Project is in Hingoli District, which is an irrigation backlog district. The irrigation backlog till June 1994 in Hingoli District was 15,160 hectares in Standard Rabbi Equivalent (SRE) and till June 2022, it was 7,258 hectares in SRE. This project is in the list of projects for backlog removal of Hingoli District. Irrigation potential of the Project is 603 hectares and the project will eliminate irrigation backlog of 1,085 hectares in SRE (average coefficient 1.80). Hon'ble Governor has given in-principle approval to the Project vide letter dated 23/01/2025 subject to certain conditions.

Considering above, this Administrative Approval proposal appears to be consistent with mandatory requirements provided in Section 11(f) of MWRRA Act and policy of the Authority for clearance of projects under Section 11(f) of the MWRRA Act.

As per the directions of the Hon'ble Governor, vide letter dated 06/07/2021, this Authority, vide even letter No. 483 dated 06/10/2025, has given prior intimation to the Hon'ble Governor about clearance to this project as per the provisions of Section 11(f) of the MWRRA Act, 2005.

In view of above, the Authority has directed me to convey that this project proposal is suitable for clearance. Hence, the Authority's clearance under Section 11 (f) of the MWRRA Act, 2005, is hereby accorded to the Administrative Approval proposal of Digras Storage Tank, Taluka Hingoli, District Hingoli.

Hence this communication.

(By the Order of the Authority)



(Mallikarjun Dharane)
Secretary, MWRRA

Copy to :

- 1) Additional Chief Secretary (WRP & D), Water Resources Department, Mantralaya, Madam Cama Road, Mumbai - 400 032.
- 2) 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 Road, Nanded - 431605.