

p; Need to issue necessary directions to the Government of Maharashtra for immediate release of water to Karnataka from Kalamavadi reservoir

SHRI PRAKASH B. HUKKERI (CHIKKODI): "Doodhganga" Project is the inter-state irrigation project between the States of Karnataka and Maharashtra. A Kalamavadi reservoir has been constructed river Doodhganga near Asangao village in Radhanagari taluka of Kilhapur district in Maharashtra.

Under the irrigation project 4.0 TMC of water is allocated to Karnataka to irrigate about 15167 hectares of land in Chikkodi taluka of Belagavi district in Karnataka. Since the said project is still under progress, the Karnataka's share of water is being released from Nidhori canal to Doodhganga and Vedaganga rivers for the use of Karnataka. Out of 4 TMC water, 0.57 TMC water is released during monsoon. The remaining water would be released depending upon the availability of water of Kalamavadi reservoir from October to May every year.

Accordingly, in the current year, apart from 0.57 TMC water of monsoon allocation 3.43 TMC water is to be released to Karnataka. But in the wake of deficient rainfall, water storage in Kalamavadi reservoir has come down, consequently Karnataka's share of water also reduced from 3.430 TMC to 2.442 TMC water. The water should be released from Nidhori canal to Doodhganga and Vedaganga rivers during November, 2015 to April, 2016.

Due to severe drought, people living in border villages of both Karnataka and Maharashtra facing drinking water crisis. They are depending on the water from Kalamavadi reservoir to meet their drinking water needs as well as that of their cattle. But the Government of Maharashtra is not willing to release the Karnataka's share of water, even though water availability in the reservoir is sufficient to release to Karnataka.

Therefore, my humble submission to the Union Government that people of both Karnataka and Maharashtra are facing drinking water crisis in the border villages of both the states and there is a need to fulfill the drinking water needs of people of inter-state border villages. In such a situation I request the Union government a direction should be issued to the Government of Maharashtra for immediate release of 2.442 TMC water to Karnataka's share from Kalamavadi reservoir and also proportionate water from Maharashtra's share to ensure the availability of drinking water to all the people living in the border of both Karnataka and Maharashtra .