

areas mutually agreed upon, including techniques in the efficient use of water resources, recycling/re-use of waste water, desalination, aquifer recharge and *in-situ* water conservation techniques, and water resource management.

During WATEC 2019, extensive discussions were held on wide range of issues in the water sector covering both agriculture and drinking water, Israel's unique water management system involving desalination and reuse of waste water.

Various technologies commonly used for rain water harvesting have been described in the "Manual on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water" available in public domain in the following URL: <http://cgwb.gov.in/documents/Manual-Artificial-Recharge.pdf> and also in "Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water in India", in <http://cgwb.gov.in/documents/masterplan-2013.pdf>.

Further, objectives of ongoing Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) include enhance the adoption of precision-irrigation and other water saving technologies, improve on-farm water use efficiency to reduce wastage, integration of water source, distribution and its efficient use to make best use of water through appropriate technologies and practices, etc.

Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) is implementing a nationwide programme of "National Aquifer Mapping and Management (NAQUIM)" for mapping of aquifers (Water bearing formations), their characterization and development of aquifer management plans to facilitate sustainable development of ground water resources. Aquifer maps and management plans have been shared with the respective State Government agencies for taking suitable interventions.

Water being a State subject, initiatives on water management including conservation in the Country is primarily States' responsibility. The important measures taken by the Central Government for conservation of water in the country are at the following URL: [http://mowr.gov.in/sites/default/files/Steps\\_to\\_control\\_water\\_depletion\\_Jun2019.pdf](http://mowr.gov.in/sites/default/files/Steps_to_control_water_depletion_Jun2019.pdf).

#### **Status of construction of Polavaram Irrigation project**

905. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been an inordinate delay in completion of Polavaram Irrigation Project;

- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of funds released during the last three years;
- (d) the details of funds spent/unspent on construction of Polavaram Projects;
- (e) whether the fund released is sufficient for early completion of this project; and
- (f) if not, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) and (b) As informed by Polavaram Project Authority (PPA), completion of Polavaram Irrigation Project which was earlier targeted for December, 2019 has now been rescheduled to December, 2021 mainly because of reason attributed to contract management of different components of the project.

(c) to (f) The Government of India has been reimbursing the expenditure incurred by the Government of Andhra Pradesh on the Polavaram Irrigation Project, after declaration of this project as National Project with effect from 01.04.2014.

The details of funds released by Government of India and expenditure incurred on the project during last three years are as below:

(₹ in crore)			
Sl. No.	Year	Amount released	Expenditure incurred
1.	2016-17	2514.16	1701.45
2.	2017-18	2000	3830.53
3.	2018-19	1400	3047.39

Total Central Assistance (CA) of ₹ 8614.16 crore (including ₹ 1850 crore in Feb, 2020) has been released to the project from time to time as per eligible proposals recommended by PPA and Central Water Commission.

Further, Ministry of Finance *vide* letter dated 26.11.2019 has conveyed that no further releases would be made pending finalization of audit of expenditure etc. by the State Government.