Clearance to Gunjavani Project in Pune District under MKVDC, Pune (which is undergoing scope change) under Section 11 (f) of the MWRRA Act, 2005.

BACKGROUND

1. Gunjavani irrigation project was administratively approved on October 16, 1993 to give irrigation benefits to 15,000 ha of area in Velhe, Bhor and Purandar talukas of Pune district. Thereafter, first Revised Administrative Approval (RAA) was accorded on October 3, 2002. During this first revision, irrigation benefited area was increased from 15,000 ha to 16,500 ha. Now, the project report is under second revision. During second revision, the benefited area is proposed to be increased again from 16,500 ha to 21,392 ha and the independent component Narayanpur Lift Irrigation Scheme is included to give benefits to drought prone area of Purandar taluka.

2. Government Resolution No. Misc/2015/(425/2015)/ Medium Project dated November 16, 2016 has mandated prior approval of the Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority (MWRRA) under Section 11(f) of MWRRA Act 2005, if the Irrigable Command Area of the project (ICA) is increased by more than 10% during revision. Accordingly, Executive Director, MKVDC, Pune along with the State Level Technical Advisory Committee (SLTAC) scrutiny report, has submitted the proposal to MWRRA for clearance under Section 11 (f) on August 9, 2017. Subsequently, Executive Director, MKVDC, Pune has submitted the proposal in revised format vide Letter No. मक्कूखोविंस/03/ (३८३/२०१६)/ प्रवा-9/९२०९/२०१७ dated October 3, 2017.

3. The said proposal was scrutinized within the framework of Section 11(f) of MWRRA Act, 2005 and as per the policy viz. “Policy for Clearance under Section 11(f) of MWRRA Act, 2005 to Water Resources Projects
which undergo Change of Scope dated September 12, 2017 framed by the Authority.

4. Original Administrative Approval to Gunjavani project was granted by WRD vide GR dated October 16, 1993 i.e. prior to enactment of MWRRA Act, 2005. Hence, as per clause 3.1 (a) (i) of the Policy, the proposal can be cleared with instructions to incorporate the details such as ICA, CCA, water use etc. in ISWP.

5. The hydrology of the project is approved by Central Design Organization Nashik vide its letter dated January 12, 1993. As per this approved hydrology, water availability at project site at 75% and 50% dependability is 3.58 TMC and 4.17 TMC respectively. The total water use proposed in the proposal under consideration is 4.17 TMC. The project lies in Krishna basin. The river Krishna being an interstate river, the Government of Maharashtra, vide its letter dated October 20, 2001 had submitted to Central Water Commission the details of planned utilization of projects in Krishna basin by Maharashtra out of enbloc 599 TMC annual water use permitted by the Krishna Water Dispute Tribunal Decision to the State. In this proposal water use provision for Gunjavani project is 4.19 TMC. The water use as per the present proposal is 4.17 TMC. Thus the total water utilization proposed is consistent with water utilization limits.

6. The entire project with revised scope has B.C. ratio of 2.43. The B.C. ratio of extended component i.e. Narayanpur Lift irrigation Scheme when calculated independently by loading proportionate cost of the dam and feeder pipe line is 1.89 which is more than yardstick requirement of 1 (The command area is DPAP). Thus, the proposal is economically viable.

7. Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF), Government of India (GoI), New Delhi vide its letter dated April 29, 2005 has accorded the environmental clearance to the Gunjavani project.

8. As per the scrutiny note of SLTAC, the balance cost of the project at schedule of rate of 2016-17, including establishment cost, is Rs. 1032.17 crore. In this, the cost component of newly added Narayanpur Lift Irrigation scheme (ICA 5400 ha, 25% of total ICA) is of Rs. 154.29 crore (15%). Thus, the proposal will not cause material thin spreading of the resources.

9. Thus all the criteria which are necessary for according MWRRA's clearance under Section 11(f) are fulfilled.
10. Hence, the proposal was put for the consideration of the Authority in its 6th meeting dated December 4, 2017. The Authority has resolved to give clearance under Section 11(f) of the MWRRA Act, 2005 to the Gunjavani project in which scope change is proposed, alluding State Government some of the provisions. Therefore, the issue of giving clearance to Gunjavani (Major) Project, Taluka Velha, District Pune which undergo change in scope was under consideration of the Authority.

ORDER

11. The MWRRA is, therefore, pleased to accord clearance under section 11(f) to Gunjavani (Major) Project, Taluka Velha, District Pune in which scope change is proposed, alluding the State Government the following provisions;

a) Gunjavani Project’s ICA, CCA and water use shall be included in the ISWP.

b) Necessary compliance of condition No. 6 of the Environmental clearance accorded by MoEF, GoI vide its letter dated April 29, 2005 for modified scope shall be ensured.

c) Necessary compliance of condition No. 15 in the Forest clearance accorded by MoEF, GoI vide its letter dated June 13, 2013 under the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 shall be ensured.

d) Investment priority shall be given to project components meant for giving benefits to benefited area envisaged in the first revised administrative approved project report.

e) The Government shall take into consideration all relevant aspects, including SLTAC Report and this clearance, before according Revised Administrative Approval.

12. This clearance is issued under registered No. 104 and is referenced under MWRRA/2016/PRCL/MKVDC/91/692 dated 05/12/2017 in the office of the Authority.

(V. M. Kulkarni)  
Member (W. R. E.)

(K. P. Bakshi)  
Chairman