

ADB, India Sign \$91 Million Loan for Comprehensive Water Management in Karnataka

November 27, 2019

Source: PIB

Recently the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India signed a \$91 million loan to modernize the Vijayanagara Channel irrigation systems and prepare river basin management plans in the Krishna river basin that will help improve irrigation water use efficiency and contribute to improving sustainable water security in Karnataka.

Significance of the project

- The investment program will help Government of Karnataka in strengthening its institutions involved in integrated water resource management and modernizing the irrigation system infrastructure for improving water use efficiency in the State
- This second project loan will continue to strengthen state and basin institutions for IWRM and finance the modernization of Vijayanagara Channels
- The investment program, consisting of two project loans, will help Karnataka's water agencies better draw up and roll out effective river basin management plans.
- The **first project is helping the modernization of the Gondi irrigation system** and supporting the state with preparing a new water resources policy and other water governance strengthening activities.
- The project interventions are also tackling inefficient water use in agriculture that accounts for over 84% of the state's total water use. This will improve water availability to meet the rising demand from other users

in the state.

- About 30 water user cooperative societies will also be established and strengthened for improving their farmer irrigation canals under the second project.