

**Question for written answer E-006888/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Doru-Claudian Frunzuliță (S&D)

Subject: Farmers in India

Farmers in India's Vidarbha region are struggling with drought and limited access to irrigation while plans by India's government to build 71 new coal-fired power plants will place an extra strain on water resources.

It seems that the lack of access to irrigation water is linked to the suicides of thousands of farmers in the area, and investing in thirsty coal-fired power plants will only exacerbate water problems in a region that has a long history of under development.

Does the Commission intend to hold talks with the Government of India, calling for a moratorium on allocating water to coal-fired power plants in Vidarbha, while re-examining existing allocations to ensure that the irrigation needs of farmers are not jeopardised?