

In addition, NWDA has received 47 proposals of intra-State links from 9 States viz. Maharashtra, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Odisha, Bihar, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Chhattisgarh. Out of these, PFRs of 36 and Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of 2 intra-State links have been completed by NWDA up to March, 2017.

At the time of preparation of DPR of the individual river link projects, detailed Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) studies for project affected area including ecologically fragile zones are carried out as per Terms of Reference approved by Environmental Appraisal Committee (EAC) of Ministry of Environment and Forests and Climate Change. EIA study includes impacts on land environment, water resources and its quality, terrestrial ecology (flora, fauna, vegetation cover, wildlife), aquatic ecology (riverine ecology, fisheries), pollution due to noise during construction phase, impact on air quality, impact due to command area development, impacts on local services (like water supply, education, health care, community forests, impacts on business opportunities). All environmental impacts and issues arising out of the EIA studies are duly addressed in Environmental Management Plan which forms a part of DPR.

(e) and (f) The Government is not considering any policy for the plantation of invasive plant species in nearby areas of Ganga. However, a DPR was prepared by Forest Research Institute, Dehradun for 'Forestry Intervention for Ganga', which includes plantation of only indigenous plant species under different plantation models. Plantation activities under Namami Gange Programme are being carried out as per the DPR prepared by FRI, Dehradun.

Fund under LTIF for Polavaram

1915. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has agreed to fund Polavaram project under Long Term Irrigation Fund (LTIF) instituted under NABARD, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government had decided to allocate ₹ 23814 crores from LTIF to Polavaram project over a period of five years; and

(c) if so, what is the year-wise allocation from LTIF to Polavaram?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Polavaram Project is presently being funded under Long Term Irrigation Fund (LTIF) initiated under NABARD. The total estimated

cost of the project (at 2010-11 PL) is ₹ 16010.45 crore, out of which irrigation component is ₹ 12294.40 crore. Total expenditure incurred by the State Government on the project up to 31.3.2014 amounts to ₹ 5135.37 crore, out of which ₹ 562.47 crore was released as Central Assistance (CA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP). Balance cost of irrigation component as on 1.4.2014 as per above estimated cost was ₹ 7158.53 crore.

Funds are released for this project from time to time as per requirements. CA of ₹ 5364.16 crore has been released for this project from 1.4.2014 to till date including ₹ 2414.16 crore and ₹ 2000 crore through Long Term Irrigation Fund (LTIF) during 2016-17 and 2017-18 (so far) respectively.

Further, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted revised cost estimate of the Polavaram project amounting to be ₹ 58319.06 crore (At 2013-14 price level) to Central Water Commission (CWC). The revised estimates have been examined by CWC and observations have been communicated to the Government of Andhra Pradesh for compliance.

Rehabilitation and Resettlement works of Polavaram project

1916. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been no progress in Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) works of Polavaram project, since the last one year due to shortage of funds with State Government;

(b) if so, details thereof, if not, whether Government is committed to complete the total R&R works before completion of ECRF dam and supply of water into canals through gravity;

(c) total estimate of R&R works of Polavaram in all affected States according to Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013; and

(d) whether Government has released any funds specifically for R&R works to AP State, if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) and (b) As informed by the State Authorities, progress achieved towards R & R in respect of Polavaram project is as under:—