

**Audit of Polavaram project expenditure**

2315. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is not reimbursing expenditure incurred on Polavaram Project by Andhra Pradesh Government due to non-submission of audit certificates of expenditure, incurred on the project before 1st April, 2014 by the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons as to why there is a delay in reimbursing the expenditure on Polavaram; and

(d) the details of reimbursement claims made by Andhra Pradesh Government on Polavaram expenditure, date-wise and the amount released and the amount yet to be released so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) to (d) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has informed that an expenditure of ₹11800 Cr. has been incurred on the project from April, 2014 to October, 2019. Government of India has been reimbursing the claims of the State Government in respect of Polavaram Project duly verified by Polavaram Project Authority (PPA) and Central Water Commission (CWC) from time to time. The detail of amount reimbursed by Govt, of India year-wise since it was declared as National Project is as under:

₹ in Cr		
Sl. No.	Year	Amount Reimbursed
1.	2014-15	250.00
2.	2015-16	600.00
3.	2016-17	2514.16
4.	2017-18	2000.00
5.	2018-19	1400.00
TOTAL		6764.16

Ministry of Finance (MoF) since Nov., 2016 has been consistently seeking submission of Audited Accounts of Expenditure incurred on the Polavaram Project upto 31.03.2014 among other details to firm up Government of India liability to meet fund requirement of Polavaram Irrigation Project (PIP). The same was reiterated by the MoF *vide* letters dated 26.07.2018; 06.05.2019; & 10.07.2019. The State Government has been requested from time to time to submit compliance in this regard. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has intimated that Principal Accountant General (PAG) office, Hyderabad has completed the audit of ₹3777.44 Cr. out of total expenditure of ₹5135.87 Cr. (now tentatively indicated as ₹5175.25 Cr. as per ongoing audit) incurred up to 31.3.2014.

Ministry of Finance *vide* letter dated 08.11.2019 read with letters dated 21.11.2019 and 27.11.2019 has permitted the Ministry to fund the project for an additional amount of ₹ 1850 Cr. as an interim measures pending finalization of audit of expenditure, etc. Further, Ministry of Finance *vide* letter dated 26.11.2019 has conveyed that no further releases would be made before the State Government comply with the requisite conditions mentioned in their above mentioned letters.

#### **Improvement of irrigation facilities**

†2316. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) the details of total irrigated agricultural land and land which is proposed to be irrigated in the country during the last two years, State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that a large portion of irrigated agricultural land and the land which is proposed to be irrigated have been given to industrial houses, if so, the details thereof for the last two years; and

(c) the details of efforts being made to expand irrigated agricultural land and fund spent thereon for the said period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) to (c) Programmes pertaining to irrigation of agricultural land are planned, funded, executed and maintained by the State Governments themselves as per their own resources and priorities. To supplement their efforts and to encourage sustainable development and efficient management of water resources, the Central Government provides technical and financial assistance to State Governments through various schemes and programmes.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.