

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 19.11.2009
ANSWERED ON
POLAVARAM IRRIGATION PROJECT .

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Shri Pyarimohan Mohapatra

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether it is true that all clearances have been given by various Ministries of Government with a view to accord National Project Status to Polavaram Irrigation Project in Andhra Pradesh; and
- (b) whether while giving the said clearances, the objection raised by the States of Chhattisgarh and Orissa were glossed over and the reasons thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES

(SHRI VINCENT H. PALA)

(a)&(b) New Projects could be considered for inclusion as National Projects on receipts of proposals from the State Government in the prescribed format, clearance from Expenditure Finance Committee/ Project Investment Board and on the recommendation thereupon of a high powered Steering Committee constituted for the purpose of overseeing the entire process of selection and implementation of National Project and the approval by the Union Cabinet. The Indira Sagar Polavaram project was discussed in the first meeting of the High Powered Committee for National Projects held on 06.08.2009. The objections raised by Government of Orissa were also discussed in the above meeting. The Andhra Pradesh State Representative had informed that inter-state issues have been settled through inter-state agreement and Godavari Water Dispute Tribunal Award 1980. Further, the State Government has also made provisions for construction of embankment to protect the areas of Chhattisgarh and Orissa State affected from submergence. After discussions, it was agreed in the meeting to recommend this project for inclusion in the scheme of National Projects.