GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 559
ANSWERED ON 07.02.2022

REHABILITATION AND RESETTLEMENT WORK OF PIP

559 SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the fact that the rehabilitation and resettlement (R&R) work pertaining to Polavaram Irrigation Project (PIP) is not being implemented in true letter and spirit;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether Government has issued any stern warning to Andhra Pradesh Government in this regard;
(d) if so, the details thereof; and
(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) & (b) Polavaram Irrigation Project (PIP) is being executed by Government of Andhra Pradesh (GoAP) on behalf of Government of India. Land acquisition and rehabilitation & resettlement (R&R) works of PIP are being carried out by GoAP.

GoAP has informed that it is ensuring that R&R works are being implemented in true letter & spirit.

(c) to (e) Key steps taken at Government of India level for proper implementation of R&R works of Polavaram Irrigation Project (PIP) are detailed below:

i. Polavaram Project Authority (PPA) under the Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation (DoWR, RD & GR) conducts regular review meetings with the State Government. 14 review meetings have been conducted so far. Further, senior officials of the PPA also visit the R&R sites from time to time, based on which advisories are being issued to the State Government.
ii. Review of PIP, including R&R works pertaining to the project, is also being done regularly by DoWR, RD & GR. Further, in June 2021, GoAP was impressed upon by DoWR, RD & GR that proper R&R of project displaced families is of utmost concern to Government of India.
iii. In September, 2017, a Monitoring Committee was constituted under the chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA), Government of India, to strengthen monitoring mechanism for land acquisition and R&R process for PIP. The committee has held six meetings and conducted 2 field visits so far. Necessary directions are issued by the committee to GoAP from time to time.

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