

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. *19

ANSWERED ON 05.02.2024

DAMAGE OF DIAPHRAGM WALL IN POLAVARAM IRRIGATION PROJECT

*19 SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the diaphragm wall constructed under Polavaram Irrigation Project was damaged significantly which causes serious doubt on the quality of construction of Polavaram Irrigation Project (PIP);
- (b) If so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken any steps to repair the damaged diaphragm wall of the Polavaram Irrigation Project as the State Government is reluctant and not coming forward to repair the same;
- (d) If so, the details thereof; and
- (e) If not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (e) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. *19 TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.02.2024 IN RAJYA SABHA REGARDING “DAMAGE OF DIAPHRAGM WALL IN POLAVARAM IRRIGATION PROJECT”

(a) & (b) Polavaram irrigation project (PIP) was declared as a National project by the Andhra Pradesh Re-organisation Act, 2014. As per Ministry of Finance approval of 2016, Government of India is to provide 100% of the remaining cost of the irrigation component only of the project for the period starting from 1.4.2014, to extent of the cost of the irrigation component on that date. However, Government of Andhra Pradesh is implementing the project on behalf of Government of India.

Construction of diaphragm wall (D-wall) was taken up across the gap II of the main dam of Polavaram irrigation project (PIP) by the implementing agency, i.e., Government of Andhra Pradesh. However, due to high floods in the monsoon of the year 2020, floods passed through the then partially built upstream cofferdam, causing damage to the D-wall.

(c) to (e) NHPC has undertaken detailed technical assessment of the damage to the D-wall. Government of Andhra Pradesh and Government of India are accordingly evaluating the various options for its restoration. Consultation with international design agencies having relevant experience is also proposed in this regard. Based on the same, restoration of D-wall shall be implemented by Government of Andhra Pradesh, as per designs approved by Central Water Commission.
