

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA
REJUVENATION

LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. *324

ANSWERED ON 23.03.2023

PDFs OF POLAVARAM PROJECT

*324 DR. BEESETTI VENKATA SATYAVATHI

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are demands from individuals of the Project Displaced Families (PDFs) who have attained the age of eighteen years, subsequent to the notification to be considered as separate family units entitled to all the benefits accruing to PDFs under the Polavaram Irrigation Project;
- (b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in response to such demands;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the land acquisition and resettlement and rehabilitation is yet to be initiated for about 40,000 acres on the left side of the project; and
- (d) if so, the reasons for such delays and the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent further delays?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)

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

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *324 FOR REPLY ON 23.03.2023 REGARDING “PDFS OF
POLAVARAM PROJECT”.**

(a) & (b) Polavaram Irrigation Project (PIP) has been declared as National Project vide Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014. Further, the project, including land acquisition and rehabilitation & resettlement, is being implemented by Government of Andhra Pradesh (GoAP) on behalf of Government of India.

It is informed by GoAP that a few representations have been received from individuals of the project displaced families (PDFs) who have attained the age of eighteen years subsequent to the notification, to be considered as separate family units entitled to all the benefits accruing to PDFs of the project.

GoAP has informed that upto December, 2013, rehabilitation & resettlement (R&R) compensation was being given to the PDFs of PIP as per GoAP OM No. 68 dated 8th April, 2005. Thereafter, it is being given as per Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (RFCTLARR) Act, 2013. The persons who are below 18 years of age on the date of preliminary notification, are not eligible to be notified as project displaced/ affected family (PDF/PAF). Such ineligible persons, who are making representation for seeking PDF/ PAF status, are accordingly being informed by the project authorities.

(c) & (d) Revised Cost Committee of Government of India has ascertained requirement of land to be acquired for the PIP as 1,27,263 acre. Against this, upto February, 2023, 1,13,119 acre is reported to have been acquired, and balance is under different stages of acquisition. As per the present completion schedule, the timeline for acquisition of balance land is December, 2023.

As far as R&R is concerned, out of 1.06 PDFs, 20,946 PDFs will be affected by filling up of reservoir in Phase I, i.e., upto EL 41.15m. Till February, 2023, R&R has been completed for 11,677 families. Though R&R for Phase – I was targeted to be completed by March, 2023, some delay has been reported in the same. The implementation of the project is reviewed from time to time to inter alia address delays.
