GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2494 TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.12.2021

Rayalaseema Lift Irrigation Scheme

2494. SHRI N. REDDEPPA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received a letter from the Government of Andhra Pradesh requesting environmental clearance for Rayalaseema Lift Irrigation Scheme and if so, the details thereof including the Ministry's response thereto; and
- (b) whether the Government has expedited the process for issuing environmental clearance for the proposed Rayalseema Lift Scheme and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

- (a) & (b) Yes Sir. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh vide letter no. CE(P)KNL/ICD32-TW/2021/AEE5/RLS dated 08th June, 2021 has submitted a proposal seeking amendment to the existing Environmental Clearances to include Rayalaseema Lift Scheme under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006, as amended. The instant Proposal has been considered by the sectoral Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) in its meetings held on 16th -17th June, 2021 and 7th July, 2021 and after detail deliberation the EAC has sought following information from the project proponent for further consideration of the proposal:
 - i. A holistic report on water availability in the river, with the existing and future schemes including hydro power projects, should be provided as envisaged in the approved Master Plan for River Developments.
 - ii. A study showing the pre and post project temporal simulations of drawl of water from the reservoir.
- iii. Detailed status of other similar water lifting projects in the region/ neighbouring States along with status of environmental clearance in respect of such projects.
- iv. The locations of any Wildlife Sanctuary, Reserved Forest Area and other ecological habitats likely to be affected by the reduced levels in the reservoir post construction of the project.

The aforementioned information as sought by EAC has not been submitted by the Project Proponent till date.
