

JOINT INSPECTION REPORT

As per the orders dated 28.07.2021 in OA No.143/2021 of the Hon`ble National Green Tribunal, south zone, Chennai, the officials of Revenue, Irrigation and Mines & Geology Department have inspected on 17.08.2021 the Krishna Right flood bank upstream of Prakasam Barrage in Mandadam village, Thulluru Mandal, Guntur District to file a report as directed by the Hon`ble National Green Tribunal. The following officials have attended for joint inspection.

1. Sri Bhaskar Reddy, RDO, Guntur on behalf of the Collector & Dist. Magistrate, Guntur
2. Sri A.Muralikrishna Reddy, SE, Irrigation (KC Division), Vijayawada
3. Sri A. Raja Swaroop Kumar, EE, KC Division, Vijayawada
4. Sri S.K.V.Satyanarayana, Deputy Director of Mines & Geology, Guntur
5. Sri M.Vishnuvardhana Rao, Asst. Director of Mines & Geology, Guntur
6. Smt. M.Leela Sanjeeva Kumari, Tahsildar, Thulluru Mandal

The Hon`ble NGT has made the following orders :

"the District Collector, Mines and Geology Department and also the Irrigation Department are directed to conduct the inspection of the area and then file a report has to whether any person to whom the work was entrusted had carried out the dredging in accordance with the provisions and also in a scientific manner as required and if not, whether any damage has been caused on account of the same, if so, what is the nature of damage caused and what is the action taken against the persons who committed the violation".

The inspection was conducted duly taking the directions of the Hon`ble National Green Tribunal into consideration.

➤ During the inspection, the SE, Irrigation, Vijayawada has informed that :

1. the heavy shoal formation on upstream side of the Prakasam Barrage besides reducing the capacity of barrage also endangers the safety of Barrage & flood banks and damages the Environment, infrastructure. Hence, to safeguard the Barrage, river flood banks and river ecology, as a part of maintenance, Water Resources Depart has proposed to taken de-silting works on upstream side of Prakasam Barrage by dredging process.
2. The existing flood banks are formed away from the banks of the River course. The width of the margin between the banks of the river to the flood banks (River Margins) varies from a minimum distance of 100 Mts to maximum distance of 500 Mts at certain locations.
3. The Government of Andhra Pradesh Municipal Administration and Urban Development (CRDA) Department allotted Ac.20.00 Cts land in Mandadam Village to the Water Resources Department for the purpose of dumping the dredged material due to de-silting works on upstream side of Prakasam Barrage, Krishna River vide reference Memo No. 1268811/CRDA/2020, dated 05/08/2021.
4. The Water Resources Department was concluded an agreement with the Agency on 10/08/2021. The agency is having experience in de-siltation operations, mobilizing the Men and Machinery at site and not yet started any de-silting work in Guntur District.
5. The material derived from the de-siltation will be utilized depending on the nature and quality of the material, but it is not suitable for strengthening of the banks of the River or bunds of the canal, since the material is not suitable for strengthening of the banks.

6. The Government has sanctioned widening strengthen the Krishna Right flood bank upstream of Prakasam Barrage (upto 15.525 KM) including formation of 2 lane road and work is in progress.



Physical Observations:

- No dredging activity has been carried out by the entrusted agencies till to date and no damage caused to the flood bank. Since, No Damage occurred, Initiation as action does not arise. The allegation raised by the local people was baseless and not tenable.
- The distance between the banks of the river to the flood banks (River Margins) varies from a minimum distance of 100 Mts to maximum distance of 500 Mts at certain locations.
- Islands covered with vegetation are noticed in the River coarse and the removal of heavy shoal formation on upstream side of the Prakasam Barrage is required, (i). To increase the capacity of the barrage, (ii). For safety of Barrage and flood banks, (iii). To protect the Environment & Infrastructure.
- The SE, Irrigation, Vijayawada has also stated that in compliance of the orders issued by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in O.A.No.935 of 2018 on dated:24/08/2020, the Chief Engineer, Krishna Delta System, Vijayawada addressed a letter vide Letter No.CE/KDS/VJA/OT-3/AE-10/F-De-silting/ 1107 dated 09-06-2021 to the Senior Environmental Engineer, Central Pollution Control Board, Regional Directorate (South), Bangalore, that the proposed dredging operations be overseen during execution by the Expert Committee to ensure that no damage is caused to the environment. The dredging operations will be carried out under the supervision of Engineers of Water Resources Department of Government of Andhra Pradesh and also the experts on dredging operations nominated by the APMDC Ltd. The proposed de-siltation works on upstream side of Prakasam barrage by dredging process be overseen by the expert committee to ensure that no damage is caused to the environment and River ecology as directed by NGT in OA No:935/2018.

In view of the above, the de-siltation of upstream of Prakasam Barrage may not affect the flood banks of Krishna River.


EE KC DIVISION
VIJAYAWADA


S. F. S. Ramayya
DD MINES,
GUNTUR 19/08/2024


RDO, GUNTUR 19/08/2024