

PRESENT STATUS REPORT OF CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD, ANDHRA PRADESH POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD, ANDHRA PRADESH STATE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY AND DISTRICT COLLECTOR, WEST GODAVARI IN THE MATTER OF OA NO. 175/2018(PB) RELATED TO PURUSHOTHAPATNAM LIFT IRRIGATION SCHEME, ANDHRA PRADESH AS PER THE HON'BLE NGT ORDERS DATED 09.09.2020.

Submitted To

**HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI**

April, 2021

I Preamble

Since Polavaram project was getting delayed, Purushothapatnam Lift Irrigation Scheme was undertaken by the State of Andhra Pradesh for drawl and lifting of water from River Godavari, near Purushothapatnam Village in Seethanagaram (M), East Godavari district and to use the infrastructure of Polavaram project scheme. But however Environmental Clearance (EC) as per the procedure laid down in the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 was neither obtained for Purushothapatnam Lift Irrigation Scheme nor the EC granted to Polavaram project scheme was amended. In total the project was constructed without obtaining any Clearance from MOEFCC. MoEFCC issued *show cause notice dated 23-07-2019 under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to the State of Andhra Pradesh for non-compliance of the Environment Clearance granted to Polavaram project and for stopping all activities relating to Purushothapatnam Lift Irrigation Scheme. In addition Purushothapatnam Lift Irrigation Scheme is not cleared or accepted by Central Water Commission. Honble NGT had constituted a committee comprising EAC of MoEF&CC on irrigation projects, CPCB and IIT Roorkee to clarify whether the Purushothapatnam project requires independent EC or the existing EC of Polavaram project scheme can be amended. The committee clarified that the Purushothapatnam Lift Irrigation Scheme has to obtain Environmental Clearance as per EIA notification 2006. Hon'ble NGT vide order dated 09.09.2020 has constituted a Committee of CPCB, State PCB, SEIAA, Andhra Pradesh and District Magistrate, Andhra Pradesh to determine the extent of damage caused and the amount of compensation liable to be paid to the affected persons.*

II Orders of the Tribunal

Hon'ble NGT vide order dated 09.09.2020 has directed that "Since it has been found that EC is necessary, a Committee of CPCB, State PCB, SEIAA, Andhra Pradesh and District Magistrate, Andhra Pradesh may determine the extent of damage caused and the amount of compensation liable to be paid to the affected persons and furnish a report to this Tribunal within six months by e-mail at judicialngt@gov.in preferably in the form of searchable PDF/OCR Support PDF and not in the form of Image PDF. The State PCB will be nodal agency for coordination and compliance. A copy of this order be forwarded to the CPCB, State PCB, SEIAA, Andhra Pradesh and District Magistrate, East Godavari District, by email for compliance".

III Composition of the Committee

As directed by the Hon'ble Tribunal, the committee was constituted comprising of following members:

1. Sh. D. Muralidhar Reddy, IAS, District Collector, East Godavari District
2. Prof. P. Jagannadha Rao, Dept. of Chemical Engineering, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam
3. Smt. Mahima T, Scientist-D, Central Pollution Control Board, Regional Directorate, Chennai
4. Sh. T. Rajendra Reddy, JCEE & Zonal Officer, Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board, Visakhapatnam (Nodal agency)

IV Scope of the Committee

The committee's mandate is to assess damage on the environment and the amount of compensation liable to be paid to the affected persons on account of constructing Purshothpattinam lift Irrigation scheme without obtaining Environmental Clearance from MOEFCC. Carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment is a pre-requisite to obtaining EC, once EIA is carried out, Environmental Management Plan is prepared to mitigate or nullify the impacts. In the present scenario since no EMP was prepared to prevent or mitigate the impacts, the committee has to ascertain the damages by means of available information.

V Committee Meeting and site visit

The committee convened a meeting online on 16.11.2020. The committee derived action plan and collected project details from project proponent. The committee made a preliminary visit during 15-12-2020 to 16-12-2020 and detailed investigation during 22nd to 25th February, 2021 and collected following information from project proponent:

1. Project area with demarcation of the boundaries, geo-coordinates of the project components.
2. No. of vehicles utilized and type of fuel used, quantity of earth excavated, procedure followed for disposal of muck
3. Total no. of labours involved during the project, no. of labour camps established in the project site etc.
4. Date of start and date of completion of project
5. Complete technical details of project.

Va About Purshothpattnam Lift Irrigation Scheme

Based on the information given by project proponent, the committee has compiled the details of Purshothpattnam project and summarised below

Sl. No.	Details of the Project	
1	Objective of Project	Lifting 30 TMC of water (100 cumecs @ 10 cumecs of pumping by each pump) from River Godavari
2	Project location	17°15'21"N 81°39'41"E
3	Date of start of project	30.01.2017
4	Date of completion	Scheme commissioned on 31.07.2018 and inaugurated on 04.01.2019
5	Reservoir capacity (TMC)	It is a pumping scheme to divert 30 TMC of water from River Godavari.
6	Canal Length (km)	Nil
7	River from where water is drawn	Godavari
8	Details of the water pumped	Flood water during rainy season
9	Land Acquired	It is reported by PP that the total land required was 151.43 hectares (374.19 acres) and it is fully acquired out of which 104.54 ha in stage-I and 46.89ha in stage-2. Out of total land of 151.43 ha, 119.87ha is agricultural land while remaining 31.56ha is Government land.
10	Command Area	Nil
11	Ayacut Area	The project shall pump water to the existing Yeluru reservoir. The project proponent informed that the existing Ayacut of 67,614 acres in and around Yeluru reservoir is stabilized under this project.
12	Total cost of the Project	Rs 1637.48 Crores
13	Number of Pumps	Stage I: 10 pumps of capacity 3500 Cusec Stage II: 8 pumps of capacity

		1400 Cusec
14	Length of the Pressure Main at stage I	10.148 km, 5 rows of 3.2 m dia. MS pipes
15	Length of the Pressure Main at stage II	13.262 km, 2 rows of 3.2 m dia. MS pipes
16	Status of Environmental Clearance	Not obtained. The project proponent informed that work order was issued on 15.03.2021 to M/s. WAPCOS, Hyderabad and entrusted with the job of DPR preparation, EIA/EMP studies and obtaining EC from MoEFCC.

Purushothapatnam Lift scheme (PLIS) has been constructed at 40.80 km downstream of Akhanda Godavari Left Bank (AGLB) to lift 30 TMC from river Godavari during rainy season. The project involved land acquisition, construction of pump house and pressure main connecting Godavari River at Purushothapatnam Village to Left Main Canal (LMC) of PMPP. Lifting of water is done at two stages. The Stage-1 Pump House is located on Godavari river at km 40.800 of AGLB and delivers water at km 1.600 of LMC of PMPP through 5 rows of Pressure Main of dia. 3.2 m of length 10.148 km. Similarly, the Stage-2 Pump House is located on LMC of PMPP at km 50.00 and delivers water through 2 rows of Pressure Main of dia. 3.2 m of length 13.262 km to Yeleru reservoir. It is reported that water from Yeleru Reservoir will be used for drinking, industrial purposes and for stabilizing the existing Ayacut of 67,614 acres.

It is reported by PP that this lift Scheme is temporary in nature and it will become non-operational once the Polavaram Project is completed and the pumphouse shall be used elsewhere. But however, the project proponent is not having clarity on the fate of pressure Main and delivery system laid underground once the PPLIS becomes non-operational. Purshothattnam lift irrigation scheme consists of two stages, stage-1 & 2. It is claimed by Govt. of Andhra Pradesh that PPLIS shall used only during monsoon to draw surplus water.

The components of the scheme and Geo-coordinates are described below:

Table2: Components of the scheme and geo-coordinates

Stage-1		Geo-Cordinates
1	Pump house at KM 40.800 of Akhanda	17°15'21"N 81°39'41"E

	Godavari left bank (AGLB) is installed. It comprises of 10 pumps each of 350 cusecs	
2	Pressure main length of each row 10.148 KM, 5 rows of 3.2 m dia MS pipes	Pressure Main @ KM 0.600 17°15'10"N 81°39'56"E Pressure main @ KM 3.550 17°13'57"N 81°40'44"E Pressure main @ KM 6.575 17°13'0.5"N 81°42'33"E
3	Delivery cistern @ KM 1.600	17°13'57"N 81°43'48."E
In stage-1, water is pumped from +14 m to deliver level at +40.54 m and in stage-2 is pumped from level +33.0m to +86.56m.		
Stage-2		
4	Pump house @ KM 50.00 of Polavaram left main canal 8 pumps each of 175 cusecs	17°11'29"N 82°04'20"E
5	Pressure main length of each 13.362 KMs, 2 rows of 3.2m dia of MS pipes	Pressure Main @ KM 1.500 17°12'16"N 82°04'27"E Pressure main @ KM 4.50 17°13'56"N 82°04'41"E Pressure main @ KM 6.000 17°14'43"N 82°04'47"E Pressure Main@ KM 8.500 17°15'39"N 82°04'55"E Pressure main @ KM 11.000 17°17'20"N 82°05'41"E
6	Delivery cistern @ Yeleru reservoir	17°17'51"N 82°04'57"E

Vb Present status of the Study

In addition to site visit and details given by project proponent, the committee had sought following information from various other departments which is still awaited:

- i. Information on Loss of yield, loss of crops and how much area of irrigated land is lost is sought from the Agricultural & Irrigation department

- ii. Information on Loss of forest land and forest trees due to the project is sought from Forest department
- iii. Information of Incidence of fish kill in river Godavari in the vicinity of project site is sought from Fisheries department
- iv. Information on Whether any historical monument or archaeological site is lost due to project site is sought from Archaeology Department.
- v. Information on pricing of top soil is sought from Horticulture department.
- vi. Information on ground water quality and depth.

Presently due to lack of available information the committee could not assess the damages. After obtaining all the information from these departments, the committee shall ascertain the damage, calculate Environmental Compensation for the damage and submit the report to Hon'ble NGT.

VI Prayer for seeking extension of time

The committee has completed the site visit and collected necessary information from project proponent. In addition, the committee requires information from various departments like Forest department, Fisheries department, Agricultural department etc to assess the damage for constructing Purshothpattnam project without obtaining Environmental Clearance from MOEFCC. The committee is continuously pursuing with other departments to collect the information. Due to local elections, all the Department officials are busy in election duty. In view of this, it is respectfully prayed to Hon'ble NGT for granting two months time for submitting the final report.



Sh. D. Muralidhar Reddy, IAS,
District Collector, East Godavari



Prof. P. Jagannadha Rao,
Dept. of Chemical Engineering,
Andhra University, Visakhapatnam



Smt. Mahima T, Scientist-D
Central Pollution Control Board,
Regional Directorate Chennai



T. Rajendra Reddy,
JCEE & Zonal Officer,
Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board,
Visakhapatnam