

Submit DPRs to CWC, GRMB urged

Telangana says these projects are ongoing since 2010

STATE BUREAU
HYDERABAD

Telangana has once again requested Godavari River Management Board (GRMB) to submit six detailed project reports (DPRs) submitted by the former, to Central Water Commission (CWC) for according clearances without any further loss of time.

In a letter to the Board Chairman, Engineer-in-Chief (General) Irrigation and Command Area Development (CAD) C Muralidhar recalled that the Union Minister of Jal Shakti, in the second Apex Council meeting, assured that the appraisal would be done expeditiously.

Muralidhar informed that the six DPRs of Choutpally Hanmanth Reddy Lift Irrigation Scheme (CHRLIS), Chanaka-Korata, Chinna Kaleshwaram (Mukteshwar) Lift Irrigation Scheme, Tupakulagudem, Sitarama Lift Irrigation Scheme (SRLIS) and Modikuntavagu - submitted by Telangana were not new projects attracting the provision of Section 85 (8) (d) of Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act (APRA)-2014. All these projects are ongoing projects since 2010 and were grounded by the government in erstwhile AP. In order to overcome defective planning in such ongoing projects, the Telangana government has undertaken re-engineering of certain existing and ongoing projects so

Engineer-in-Chief Muralidhar reiterates all projects are within the entitled and planned utilisations of 967.94 TMC

as to ensure the optimum utilisation to full extent under these projects.

He reiterated all the ongoing projects together with completed projects were well within the entitled and planned utilisations of 967.94 TMC as applicable based on the grounded projects in undivided AP.

The erstwhile AP has undertaken these projects within the earmarked utilizations of 967.94 TMC in Godavari waters allotted by Godavari Water Disputes Tribunal only, duly ensuring that they do not negatively impact the projects downstream (Andhra region wherein the projects have been grounded with planned utilization of 518 TMC).

This being so, the projects - CHRLIS, Chinna Kaleshwaram (Mukteshwar) Lift Irrigation Scheme, Tupakulagudem, SRLIS and Modikuntavagu have been wrongly shown as unapproved projects in the gazette notification and these projects fall under the Category of Clause 1(d) explanation (ii).

In accordance with Clause 2(f), the DPRs of these unapproved projects

have been submitted to CWC for technical clearance within the period of six months from the date of gazette notification.

Since these projects were taken up prior to June 2014, the GRMB was not mandated to look into aspects such as irrigation planning, cost economics and designs, which were to be looked into by CWC as per the existing procedure for the earlier projects, he said.

"It is pertinent to bring to the notice that the KRMB has explicitly taken a stand (in respect of Rayalaseema Lift Irrigation Scheme) when the DPR was referred for appraisal by CWC) that CWC may look into the aspects such as hydrology, irrigation planning, water availability and inter-State issues reporting that it does not have requisite expertise. However, it is apt to bring to notice that the DPR of RLIS in spite of it being a new project grounded by AP has not been shared with Telangana.

On such similar analogy, the DPRs as submitted by Telangana need not be shared with AP as these projects are not new. The GRMB and KRMB are taking varying stands as both are formed and mandated to function within the ambit of APRA- 2014 and the gazette notification. The technical clearance of the DPRs of the ongoing projects should be accorded by CWC Directorates and Technical Advisory Committee.

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WATER | DISPUTE

State asks GRMB to refer its DPRs to CWC for clearance

TS tells GRMB not to share DPRs with AP

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV. 3

The Telangana state government urged the Godavari River Management Board (GRMB) not to share its DPRs (detailed project reports) of six irrigation projects being constructed on the Godavari with the Andhra Pradesh government.

It also requested the GRMB to follow the stand being adopted by the Krishna River Management Board (KRMB) on AP's Rayalaseema Lift Irrigation Scheme (RLIS), the DPR of which was not shared with the Telangana government, despite it

being a new project grounded by the AP government. The Telangana government urged the GRMB to refer its DPRs to Central Water Commission (CWC) for according clearances without any further delay.

In a letter written to the GRMB chairman, the Telangana irrigation engineer-in-chief C.

Muralidhar said, "The six DPRs submitted by the Telangana government, namely, Choutpally Hanmanth Reddy lift irrigation scheme (CHRLIS), Chanaka-Korata, Chinna Kaleshwaram (Mukteswar) LIS, Tupakulagudem, Sitarama LIS and

Modikuntavagu are all not new projects attracting the provisions of the AP Reorganisation Act, 2014. All these projects are ongoing projects since 2010 and were grounded by the then government in the erstwhile AP. In order to overcome the defective planning in such ongoing projects, the Telangana government has undertaken re-engineering of certain existing and ongoing projects so as to ensure the optimum utilisation of the Godavari water under these projects."

He brought to the notice of the GRMB that all the ongoing projects, together with the completed proj-

ects, were well within the entitled/planned utilisation of 967.94 tmc ft as applicable based on the grounded projects in the erstwhile AP.

"The erstwhile AP government undertook the above projects within the earmarked utilisation of 967.4 tmc ft in the Godavari waters allotted by GWDT only duly ensuring that they did not negatively impact the projects downstream (Andhra region wherein the project was grounded with planned utilisation of 518 tmc ft)," Muralidhar noted.

Pointing out that these six projects of the Telangana government

had been wrongly shown as unapproved projects in the recent Centre's gazette notification, he said the Telangana government submitted DPRs of these unapproved projects to the CWC for technical clearance within the period of six months as mandated in the gazette.

"Since these projects are taken up prior to formation of Telangana state in June 2014, the GRMB is not mandated to look into aspects such as irrigation planning, cost, cost economics, designs etc, which are to be looked at by the CWC as per the existing procedure for earlier projects," he added.

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AP to raise dues issue at south zone meeting, says CM Jagan

DC CORRESPONDENT
VIJAYAWADA, NOV. 3

Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy instructed officials to ensure that key issues pertaining to the state should be brought up in the 29th Southern Zonal Council meeting, slated to be held in Tirupati on November 14. Reddy reviewed arrangements during a meeting at his camp office on Wednesday.

The Chief Minister said that they will be raising issues like arrears that are due to Andhra Pradesh from Tamil Nadu for the Telugu Ganga project, the Polavaram project, ₹6,300 crore pending electricity arrears, revenue deficit, and arrears from Telangana State.

The meeting also resolved to pitch for Special Status provision to the state in the Council meeting.

Reddy said that Union home minister Amit Shah would chair the meeting, which will be attended by his counterparts from Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Puducherry and Lieutenant governors of Puducherry, Andaman and Nicobar and the administrator of Lakshadweep.

Officials informed that pending issues

KCR skipped both the water dispute meetings

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Rao skipped both the meetings. In 2016, he deputed then home minister Nayani Narasimha Reddy on his behalf while in 2018 he deputed none as he was busy with Assembly elections.

With Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy issuing a media statement on Wednesday that AP would raise long-pending AP bifurcation issues and Krishna water dispute with Telangana state in the Tirupati meeting, senior Telangana officials feel that Rao's presence is of utmost importance this time to present Telangana's arguments effectively.

Jagan has announced to raise the issue of Telangana owing arrears of ₹6,300 crore

to AP Discoms, Telangana civil supplies corporation arrears to AP, Telangana freezing fixed deposits lying in banks and also bifurcation of assets pertaining to common institutions in Hyderabad listed under Schedule IX, X of AP Reorganisation Act, 2014.

Telangana state has been denying owing any arrears to AP and also opposing division of assets in Hyderabad. Jagan also announced to raise the demand of bringing Jurala dam in Telangana under the control of KRMB, which is being opposed by Telangana.

Against this backdrop, officials feel that the presence of the Chief Minister is of utmost importance to counter AP CM's claims before Centre and member states.

Rao and Jagan last met at Pragathi Bhavan in January 2020. They exhibited unusual bonhomie by meeting over half a dozen times in less than eight months after Jagan became the Chief Minister of AP in May 2019 to hold talks to resolve several contentious issues between both the states post bifurcation of state in 2014. This bonhomie ended after Jagan issued orders in May 2020 to construct Rayalaseema Lift Irrigation Scheme (RLIS) over Krishna diverting Srisailem water.

Soon after, both the states filed cases in courts and tribunals accusing each other of taking up illegal projects on the Krishna. There have been no meeting between the two since then.

related to the AP State Formation Act have been included in the agenda along with the Polavaram project and power dues of ₹6,300 crore. Also in the agenda was pending dues

from Tamil Nadu, revenue shortfall, civil supplies arrears from Telangana State and rational allocation of PDS rice by the Centre.

The Chief Minister also sought to raise the

issue of bringing the Jurala project under the purview of KRMB, interlinking of rivers, freezing of FD accounts, division of assets, among other key issues.

Millennium Post 04-November-2021

YAMUNA POLLUTION

North MCD cannot shift responsibility to others, says NGT on summoning violators

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: The National Green tribunal has dismissed a plea filed by North Delhi Municipal Corporation (North MCD) to summon the violators who have refused to pay Rs 5,000 fine for throwing waste or other items in the Yamuna river saying it cannot shift its own responsibility and obligation to any other body or authority.

A bench of Justices Sudhir Agarwal and Brijesh Sethi refused to entertain the plea by the corporation which had also sought directions to the Revenue Authorities (District Magistrates and SDMs) of the



Delhi government to enforce recovery of the environmental compensation of Rs 5,000 on each incident as per NGT's 2015 order.

"We have seen the order dated May 8, 2015 and it is

very clear. We do not find that it requires any modification. Moreover, the application in question is not maintainable under any provision of National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.

"We are also of the view that there is enough power vested with the applicant establishment, which is a statutory local body, to take appropriate action, as directed by this Tribunal. It cannot shift its own responsibility and obligation upon any other body or authority," the bench, also comprising expert member Nagin Nanda, said in its November 1 order.

The NGT was hearing a plea filed by North MCD seeking clarification of its 2015 order and sought directions to summon the defaulters to the Tribunal to pay all the outstanding Environmental Compensation.

The plea also sought direc-

tions to Delhi Pollution Control Committee for imposing hefty environmental compensation on these habitual polluters.

The tribunal in 2015 had banned dumping of construction material into the Yamuna while imposing a fine of Rs 50,000 on violators, and restrained real estate developers from carrying out any construction work.

The green panel's verdict had come while hearing a petition filed by Manoj Kumar Mishra of the Yamuna Jiye Abhiyan, seeking a ban on dumping of rubble into Yamuna and ensuring cleaning up of the river.

The Hindu 04-November-2021

Eight shutters of Mullaperiyar dam opened

Heavy rainfall from 7 p.m. on Tuesday resulted in the opening of shutters

A CORRESPONDENT
IDUKKI

Tamil Nadu increased water discharge into the Periyar following heavy rainfall in the catchment area on Wednesday morning. The inflow to the Mullaperiyar dam was 5,082 cusecs and the water level rose to 138.95 ft in the morning.

Eight spillway shutters were opened to 60 cm to discharge 3,915.43 cusecs of water to the Periyar by noon. This was in addition to a tunnel discharge of 2,305 cusecs by Tamil Nadu. The water level declined to 138.85 ft by 5 p.m. A rainfall of 3.2 mm was recorded in the catchment area in Periyar village in the morning.

After closing five shutters by Tuesday evening, only one shutter was kept open at 20 cm, releasing a minimal 148 cusecs of water to the Periyar. The water level on Tuesday was 138.10 ft. The



A view of the Periyar at the Karinkulam Chappathu bridge after release of 3,915.43 cusecs of water from the Mullaperiyar dam on Wednesday. ■ GIJI K. RAMAN

heavy rainfall from 7 p.m. on Tuesday resulted in the opening of two shutters at 6 a.m., three at 8 a.m. and two more at 12 noon on Wednesday. The Tamil Nadu Public Works Department informed Kerala of releasing 3,005 cusecs of water to the

Periyar. The water level in the Periyar increased and the district administration made public announcements urging people to take precautionary measures.

The upper rule curve level of the Mullaperiyar dam till November 10 is 139.50 ft.

Meanwhile, the water level in the Idukki reservoir continued to decline on Wednesday. The water level at 1 p.m. was 2,398.14 ft. There was no rainfall in the catchment areas of the reservoir on Tuesday and power generation was maximum at the Moolamattam power plant. The power generation on Tuesday was 17.452 million units.

An official of the Dam Monitoring and Research Station said power generation at the maximum level and poor rainfall in the catchment area resulted in the decline of water level in the reservoir. As per the new rule curve for the Idukki dam, the red alert level is 2,398.79 ft and the upper rule level is 2,399.79 ft. The full reservoir level is 2,403 ft. There was 94.33% storage in the dam on Wednesday.

The Hindu 04-November-2021

GRMB asked not to delay DPRs

Two river boards are taking varying stands: Telangana

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD:

Telangana Government has requested the Godavari River Management one more time to forward the detailed project reports (DPRs) of six projects, which were not new and taken up during the erstwhile Andhra Pradesh, to the Central Water Commission (CWC) for obtaining necessary clearance without any further loss of time.

Projects whose DPRs were submitted to the river board include Choutpally Hanmanth Reddy (CHR), Sita Rama (SR), Chinna Kaleswaram (Mukteshwar) Chanakha-Korata, Tupakulagudem and Modikuntavagu lift irrigation schemes for its perusal (appraisal) and forwarding them to CWC for further ap-

praisal and according clearances.

In a letter addressed to Chairman of the GRMB J. Chandrashekhar Iyer, Engineer-in-Chief C. Muralidhar of Telangana observed that the two river boards (GRMB and KRMB) formed as per the provisions of the AP Reorganisation Act 2014 were found to be taking varying stands in the matter of appraising the DPRs submitted by the two member States.

By delaying the examination/appraisal of the DPRs the GRMB was delaying the process of getting approvals to the projects within six months as stated in the gazette notification on the purview of the two river boards issued on July 15. He also pointed out that examining

technical aspects such as irrigation planning, cost estimates, designs and others were not in the purview of the river board as they had to be appraised and cleared by the CWC and its Directorates.

Further, he mentioned that Krishna River Management Board had simply forwarded the DPR of Rayalseema Lift Irrigation Scheme (RLIS) submitted by AP to CWC stating that it (board) had no technical expertise to appraise it. Mr. Muralidhar also brought to the GRMB Chairman's notice that given technical clearances to the completed and ongoing projects was the responsibility of the CWC and not of the river boards.

He explained that the six

projects whose DPRs were submitted by Telangana would not come under Clause 85 (8) (d) of the APRA as they were not new projects and were grounded during the combined AP Government itself. The projects were included in the unapproved projects category in the gazette notification wrongly and fall under Clause 2 (f) - explanation (ii) and as per Clause 2 (f), the DPRs of unapproved projects have to be cleared by CWC after examination by the river boards under the provisions of APRA.

He brought to the GRMB Chairman's notice that utilisation of water envisaged by the six projects fall well within the earmarked utilisation of 967.94 tmc ft.

Jansatta 04-November-2021

‘नदी उत्सव नदियों के सम्मान की परंपरा को पुनर्जीवित करेगा’

नई दिल्ली, 3 नवंबर (भाषा)।

जल शक्ति मंत्री गजेंद्र सिंह शेखावत ने बुधवार को कहा कि समाज को यह सोचने की जरूरत है कि गंगा नदी की सफाई उसकी अपनी जिम्मेदारी है और इसे मात्र सरकार के काम के रूप में नहीं देखा जाना चाहिए। शेखावत ने गंगा उत्सव के समापन समारोह को संबोधित करते हुए कहा कि सभी को स्वयं को पर्यावरण का संरक्षक समझना चाहिए। उन्होंने कहा, ‘पर्यावरण के संरक्षक की भूमिका हमारी है। हमें इसे बेहतर बनाने और अगली पीढ़ी को सौंपने की जरूरत है और इसे और खराब नहीं करना है। समाज को यह सोचने की जरूरत है कि गंगा नदी की सफाई करना उसकी जिम्मेदारी है, न कि यह सिर्फ सरकार का काम है।’

उन्होंने कहा, ‘भारत में नदियों के प्रति श्रद्धा की परंपरा है। उपभोक्तावाद के उदय के साथ यह संबंध टूट गया है। नदी उत्सव नदियों के सम्मान की इस परंपरा को पुनर्जीवित करने की शुरुआत करेगा।’ केंद्रीय मंत्री किरेन

रिजिजू ने कहा, ‘मुझे विश्वास है कि अगले तीन से चार वर्ष में स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन सफल होगा। एक भारतीय के रूप में मेरा मानना है कि गंगा का कायाकल्प और सफाई देश में सबसे महत्वपूर्ण कार्यक्रम है।’

उन्होंने कहा, ‘मैंने देश की लगभग हर नदी का दौरा किया है। विशेष रूप से गंगा कुछ साल पहले बहुत प्रदूषित दिखती थी। आज यह साफ दिखती है। काम प्रेरणादायक है और इसके वास्ते योगदान करने में मुझे प्रसन्नता होगी।’

सरकार ने तीन दिवसीय ‘गंगा उत्सव-द रिवर फेस्टिवल 2021’ मनाया, जिसमें गंगा नदी के कायाकल्प की दिशा में विभिन्न हितधारकों और सार्वजनिक भागीदारी को प्रोत्साहित करने पर ध्यान दिया गया। गंगा उत्सव, 2021 का अंतिम दिन पिछले दो दिनों की झलक के साथ शुरू हुआ, जिसके बाद शोवना नारायण द्वारा कथक नृत्य प्रदर्शन किया गया। उन्होंने मां गंगा की पीड़ा की कहानी प्रस्तुत की और सभी से इसे स्वस्थ रखने में मदद करने की अपील की।