



## Forum for Good Governance

Regd. No. 653/2009

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## PRESS NOTE

Hyderabad  
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### **Squandering of public money on Irrigation projects – Request for action on concerned Engineers and Senior bureaucrats**

To utilize the Godavari Water,(erstwhile) Government of A.P . have ordered for preparation of Detailed project report and vide G.O. 229 dated 14-12-2005 the work was entrusted to WAPCOS ltd., New Delhi. WAPCOS conducted detailed survey and submitted their report in April 2007. The cost of the project as per WAPCOS report was Rs.17,875 crores. Government have accorded administrative approval for the proposal vide G.O. Ms. No. 124 dated 16-5-2007 and named it as Pranahita Chevella Project. Before the work could commence, the cost of the project was raised to 38,500 crores. Again government have constituted an expert committee consisting of Engineer-in-Chief two Chief Engineers and three advisors to study the technical feasibility and economic viability and make suitable recommendations to the government. The expert committee after detailed examination found the design parameters, tunnels etc. are in order and recommended to government to approve the project for Rs.38,500 crores and government accorded sanction vide G.O. Ms. No. 238 dated 17-12-2008. Again when the D.P.R. for the project was prepared the cost was further escalated to Rs.40,300 crores. In a matter of one year the Pranahita Chevella Project cost raised from 17,875 crores to 40,300 crores.

**Contd.....2**

The expert committee assessed the water availability as follows

1. Available water at Tummidihatti at 75% dependability - 273 T.M.C.
2. After upstream utilization balance water available - 236 T.M.C.
3. Quantity of water proposed for Pranahita Chevella project - 160 T.M.C.

From the above it is clear that the engineers and bureaucrats have come to conclusion that 160 T.M.C. of water is available at Tummidihatti (V).

The work on project started in the year 2008 and it is stated that by 2014-15 water will be released and by 2018-19 the project will be completed in full shape. Till now as per the Spl. Chief Secretary I&CAD report an amount of Rs. 12,233 crores were spent on this project mostly for tunnel works in Chevella and other places.

After 7 years the E.N.C. quoting C.W.C. reported to government dated 16-2-2016 stated that water availability at Tummidihatti is as follows.

1. Dependable water at Project state (Tummidihatti) - 165 T.M.C.
2. Divertable water (at +152 FRL) - 120 T.M.C.
3. Divertable water (at + 148 FRL) - 44 T.M.C.

The E.N.C. further states that in view of insufficient water availability at Tummidihatti there is a need to construct a barrage at Medigadda. The net availability of water at Medigadda is assessed as 282 T.M.C.

In this way the expert committees and WAPCOS who assessed the water availability at Tummidihatti as 160 T.M.C. in 2008 and after 7 years and after spending 12,233 crores have taken 'U' turn and are saying that sufficient water is not available at Tummidihatti, thus wasting Rs.12,233 crores spent so far on this project . Further an amount of Rs.1937 crores was given as mobilization advance to contractors of Pranahita Chevella Project out of which 1413 crores was recovered and balance 524 crores pending recovery.

**Closing of projects :** As per Spl. Chief Secretary, I & CAD the following Three projects were ordered for closure.

- 1) Indira Sagar, Rudramkota
- 2) Rajeev Sagar
- 3) Dummugudem tail pond scheme

In the year 2007-08 the above 3 projects were launched with a big fan fare. D.P.R.s was prepared for all the three projects and works taken up. So far the following amounts were spent

Contd.....3



S.No.	Name of the Project	Estimated cost (crores)	Amount spent (crores)
1.	Indira Sagar	1824	697
2.	Rajeev Sagar	1681	842
3.	Dummugudem (tail pond)	1952	711
			-----
Total amount spent on these three projects			2250 crores
Amount spent on P.C. projects			12,233 crores
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<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>14,483 crores</b>
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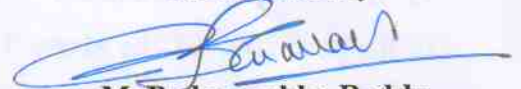
Total waste of money by closing these 4 projects is Rs.14,483<sup>cr</sup> for which the engineers advisors and senior bureaucrats should explain.

**Mobilization advance :** Whether required or not, engineers recommended for mobilization advances of Rs.3644 crores to the projects taken up in Talangana and got agreed to it out of which 2735 crores were recovered and balance 909 crores is pending. A classical example is Modikunta Vagu project where 5.95 crores were given to contractors and the whereabouts of the contractor is not traceable.

To sum up, the same WAPCOS and the same engineers have survey and prepared D.P.R.s. for all four projects discussed above. The projects were launched with fan fare in 2008 and after about 7 years with the change of guard at the top the same engineers and bureaucrats are saying lack of water and utility of the project and closing the projects and in the bargain about 14,483 crores of public money is wasted apart from 909 crores of unrecoverable mobilization advance. We feel that there should be some accountability on Engineers, advisors and higher bureaucracy.

Forum for Good Governance request the government to initiate action on engineers and bureaucrats who are responsible for squandering public money to the tune of Rs.14,483 crores.

Yours Sincerely



**M. Padmanabha Reddy**

Secretary

Forum for Good Governance