GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1638

ANSWERED ON 05.12.2024

POLAVARAM PROJECT

1638.   SHRI KRIPANATH MALLAH   SHRI DINESHBHAI MAKWANA

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has consulted the experts regarding timeline and safety associated with the Polavaram Project; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the recommendations made by them in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) & (b) The Government has engaged Panel of Experts (PoE) for Polavaram irrigation project comprising of four international experts for providing consultation on technical & construction management issues concerning safety and completion of Polavaram irrigation project.

PoE has visited the project during 30th June to 3rd July, 2024 in first visit and during 6th to 9th November, 2024 in second visit. The key technical issues concerning project safety & completion like seepage from coffer dams, ground improvement of main dam foundation, construction of new Diaphragm wall & design of Earth-Core Rock Fill (ECRF) dam were discussed during visits. The following main steps regarding safety and timely completion of project have been recommended by the PoE;

i.   Remedial measures to address the seepage issue from coffer dams, based on test results.

ii. Buttress berm construction in both cofferdams for safety consideration.

iii. Water management plan for taking up the constructions works with safety.

iv. Ways to address the issues in ground improvement works.

v.   Suggestions on planning & construction of new Diaphragm wall.

vi. Tests to be conducted to finalize design of main dam at Gap-1 and Gap-2.

vii. PoE has given its observations on project planning, construction management and site organization structure to minimize the risks and in-time project completion.

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