

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6748  
ANSWERED ON:17.05.2012  
POLAVARAM PROJECT  
Yadav Shri Madhusudan

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Central Water Commission has fixed 169.14 feet as the maximum water limit for backwater under the Indira Sagar (Polavaram) Project in Andhra Pradesh and whether the State Government has started construction according to 177.44 feet level;
- (b) if so, whether it is violative of the award given by the Godavari Water Authority on 07.08.1978 fixing the said limit as 150 feet;
- (c) if so, whether the Government has received objections from Odisha in this regard alongwith the request to stop the work on the project; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WATER RESOURCES ( SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

(a) & (b) The proposal of Polavaram Project was accepted by the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR) keeping the Full Reservoir Level (FRL)/ Maximum Water Level(MWL) at 150 feet, based on the Godavari Water Disputes Tribunal (GWDT) Award, 1980.

As per the Back Water Studies carried out by Central Water Commission (CWC), the water level at Kunta ( 103.5 km upstream to Polavaram project) has been estimated as 168.94 feet for a discharge of 36 lakh cusec.

Based on the Planning of the Polavaram Project and the limited construction activities, there is no violation of GWDT, 1980 Award.

(c) Government of Odisha has filed a Suit and various Interlocutory Applications before the Hon'ble Supreme Court against Polavaram Project including the request to stop the work on the project. Further, Government of Odisha because of the apprehensions that there would be submergence in its territory, requested Union Government not to allow construction of the Polavaram Project in Andhra Pradesh until the suit filed by it was disposed of by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

(d) Since, the Hon'ble Supreme Court had neither issued any stay order to stop the construction of the project nor given a verdict against the implementation of the project, Government of Orissa was informed that the project proposal of Polavaram project was accepted by the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources in its 95th meeting held on 20.01.2009 with one of the condition which states, " the State of Andhra Pradesh shall ensure that there is no submergence of any habitations or forest area in Odisha and Chhattisgarh as assured by them by constructing protective embankments with adequate drainage arrangements."