

## **Pranahita Chevella Sujala Sravanthi Project- Duplication/overlapping of ayacut with Government funded Irrigation Sources**

The Government of Andhra Pradesh has taken up Pranahita Chevella Sujala Sravanthi Project with an estimated cost of Rs. 40, 300/- Crores to utilize 160TMC of water and Irrigate an ayacut of 16, 40,000 acres in perched lands of Telangana area along with supplying of drinking water to twin cities of Hyderabad and 1700 en route villages utilizing 40 TMC of water and supplying of 16 TM C of water for industrial requirements

In the last week of August 2012 the Hon'ble Minister for Irrigation, Government of Andhra Pradesh had revealed that

- 1 28,800 and odd Crores have been spent on Telangana Projects and most of them are half way through.
- 2 18,000 and odd Crores for projects in coastal area.
- 3 17,000 and odd Crores in Rayalaseema area.

The area newly created is only one and half lakhs acres and another one and half acres has been stabilized. While the Government had announced that Irrigation facilities would be created for one crore acres

Secondly in Telangana all projects are lift Irrigation schemes, for which about 3,400 megawatts of power is required. No provision is made for generation nor any scheme towards that end have ever been contemplated how could these lift Irrigation schemes in Telangana function when they contemplate to complete more than 80% of the project in Telangana.

All the huge Irrigation works have been given to 20 selected Contractors under (EPC Method ) under which the contractor is to prepare the estimates and put up for approval. Normally a Contractor with an eye on Profits boosts the estimate and adopt tactics to have them approved but the estimates are prepared by the Government Engineers they are bound to keep the interest of the Government and farmers as otherwise they are answerable.

Now, these contractors are paid huge mobilization funds to finish the work under a time bound programme without asking for any revision of estimates. But now the works are delayed and estimates constantly revised. Last time P.A.C. found that the Contractors owed about 4,000 Crores taken as mobilization funds keeping the fund and utilizing the same for purposes other than the Contract work.

The project works have been divided into 28 packages and let out to contractors without preparing a proper, Comprehensive and realistic DPR. Many irregularities have been committed while entrusting the packages to the contract Agencies throwing the Financial and Engineering ethics to winds.

The project with full of technical deficiencies which if not attended immediately will make this project an “Irawatham” (white Elephant) to Telangana area. Packages 20,21,22,27 and 28 are sourced from SRSP reservoir which is already facing acute shortage of water to meet its already localized ayacut. For a Government which is committed to the welfare of the farmers, hoodwinking them with half baked schemes will bounce back and cause an un-called for tensions between the existing localized ayacutdars and prospective atacytdars.

Further it will be pertinent to bring to your kind notice that the identification of ayacut under the project/each package has not been done on ground realities. To quote one example package 27 is sourced from SRSP Reservoir which is craving for water. This package is supposed to create an Irrigation potential of 50,000 acres in Adilabad District at a total cost of 710.00 Crores. Andhra Pradesh state Irrigation Development Corporation, a State Government undertaking has executed about 23 nos. midsized lift Irrigation Schemes in this district and they are under operation duly lifting the water and Irrigating the fields. Out of the 50,000 acres under package 27, an extent of 14,950 acres is under Irrigation in 26 villages through 18, out of 23 lift Irrigation schemes which are in operation and ayacut of Donigoan project to an extent of 1550 acres which is already under Irrigation and also ayacut under minor Irrigation PR tanks and under Swarana Projects to an extent of 11,000 acres all together 27,500 acres is already under cultivation. The net likely new ayacut will not be more than 23,000 acres. The

package cost without escalation is Rs. 710.00 crores. Many huge structures which are not required/justified have been included in the estimate (Internal Bench Mark Price) to boost the package cost. The likely new ayacut is a farce figure and the same has been enhanced to camouflage the boosted contract cost. This package has been entrusted to an agency with all cooked up data and figures which will be a drain on exchequer without needed benefit to the farmers.

Packages 20, 21, 22, and 28 also need to be reviewed and they can be taken up after completion of head works of PCSS and successful lifting the required work. If these five packages are executed as being done now, the Government will be creating an unnecessary tension among the farmers of Telangana by improper sequencing of huge public money investment. These packages are only beneficial/helpful to the agencies but not to the Telangana region or farmers.

Similarly in other packages, where a single firm with multiple combinations is the beneficiary with boosted quantities of work, as return gift. If this well deserved project has to meet the aspirations of Telangana people, it needs a thorough techno economical scrutiny. Attending to deficiencies and smoothening of rough corners is urgently needed, which will improve the efficacy and minimize the likely in fructuous expenditure of public money.

Even after many representations, the state Government is not initiating any remedial measures as the above reported irregularities/favours are all return gift to the agencies in which all the bureaucrats and political bosses are involved.

In view of the afore said reasons it is requested to kindly arrange to instruct the concerned authorities to look into the above aspects in detail and rectify the plenty of marked/unmarked deficiencies.