

**N. UTTAM KUMAR REDDY**

Minister for Irrigation & CAD,  
Food & Civil Supplies  
Government of Telangana



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**D.O. Lr. No. 280/Min (I&CAD, F&CS)/2025, Date:13.06.2025**

**Dear Shri CR Patil Ji,**

Kindly refer to your DO No. N-54011/7/2025-BM Section/774 dated 28.05.2025 as a reply to my earlier letter objecting to Andhra Pradesh proposal for Godavari-Bankacherla (G-B) link scheme to divert flood waters of River Godavari in violation of the GWDT (Godavari Waters Dispute Tribunal) Award of 1980 and also the AP Reorganization Act, 2014.

I would like to express my gratitude for your assurance saying that upon receipt of the detailed proposal for G-B river linking scheme from the state government, the Central Water Commission (CWC), under your Ministry, would duly examine it in accordance with the extant guidelines, existing Tribunal Awards/ Inter-state Agreements and various provisions under APRA, 2014 and appropriate action will be taken accordingly.

However, I would like to bring to your attention that the AP state government has already submitted the Pre-Feasibility Report (PFR) of this scheme to CWC. Also, on Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025, a meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Mr. Sajjan Yadav, Additional Secretary (AS), Ministry of Finance (MoF), Government of India (GoI) with the AP state government officials which was also attended by Mr. Amit Kumar Jha, Senior Joint Commissioner (SJC) of your ministry (MoJS). In the meeting, when asked by the state government officials about the status of approval of PFR by CWC, the Senior Joint Commissioner of MoJS stated that it is under active consideration of CWC. In the said meeting, the Additional Secretary, Ministry of Finance has asked the AP State Government to submit the DPR of this scheme by the end of June.

**Usually, the DPR of any scheme by any state can be submitted to CWC only when the underlying Pre-Feasibility Report is initially approved by CWC. Does GoI asking the state government to submit the DPR infer that the PFR of this scheme is deemed to have been approved by CWC ? We strongly object to the GoI asking the AP Government to submit the DPR. We strongly object to the Godavari – Banakacharla Project.**



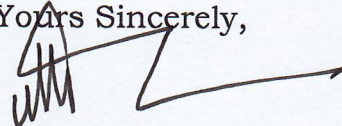
As already mentioned in my earlier letter to you, the G-B scheme violates the GWDT Award of 1980 and also the AP Reorganization Act, 2014. This scheme does not have any assured water allocations by GWDT to AP. Typically, in all of such cases where there are no assured waters allocations, CWC usually rejects such PFR's submitted by any state government and never asks for submission of DPR. ***So, it is a matter of grave concern to us that the AP state government is asked by Additional Secretary, Ministry of Finance in the presence of Senior Joint Commissioner, Ministry of Jal Shakti to submit the DPR of Godavari-Banakacharla link which technically implies that the underlying PFR of this scheme is deemed to have been approved.***

**The proposed G-B link project by AP state government not only contravenes the provisions of APRA/GWDT, but also adversely affect the water rights of people of Telangana,** especially of vast drought prone areas craving for water. Allowing such a project would undermine the equitable and judicious management of interstate river waters and will set a precedent contrary to the statutory framework and natural justice.

**In view of the above, it is humbly requested that you direct CWC to reject the PFR of this scheme that is presently under review by CWC and also initiate necessary action to prevent the Government of Andhra Pradesh from submitting the DPR of this scheme to CWC and also prevent AP from taking up any further action, including calling and awarding tenders.** It is requested that the state of AP be stopped from disregarding the APRA-2014 and other statutory provisions.

With Regards,

Yours Sincerely,



(N. UTTAM KUMAR REDDY)

To,  
Shri C R Patil Ji  
Minister of Jal Shakti,  
Shram Shakti Bhavan,  
Rafi Marg  
New Delhi.



सी आर पाटील  
C R Paatil



जल शक्ति मंत्री  
भारत सरकार  
Minister of Jal Shakti  
Government of India

28 MAY 2025

**DO No. N-54011/7/2025-BM Section**

774

*Shri N.Uttam Kumar Reddy Ji,*

Kindly refer to your DO No. 276/Min (I&CAD,FS)/2025 dated 22.01.2025 regarding Andhra Pradesh proposal for Godavari-Bankacherla Link Scheme to divert flood waters of River Godavari in violation of the GWDT Award of 1980 and also the AP Reorganization Act, 2014.

I have got the matter examined. In this regard, I would like to inform you that the detailed proposal for the Godavari-Banakacharla river linking scheme has not been received so far. I would like to assure you that upon receipt of the detailed proposal for Godavari-Banakacharla river linking scheme from the state government, the Central Water Commission, under my Ministry, will duly examine it in accordance with the extant guidelines, existing Tribunal Awards/ Inter-state Agreements and various provisions under APRA, 2014 and appropriate action will be taken.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

**C R Paatil**

**Shri N. Uttam Kumar Reddy**  
Minister for Irrigation &CAD, Food & Civil Supplies  
Government of Telangana  
#4F-27, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, C-Wing  
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**D.O..Lr.no.276/Min (I&CAD, FS)/2025 Date:22-01-2025**

Dear *Shri CR Patil ji,*

Sub: I&CAD Dept., - ISWR - Andhra Pradesh proposal for Godavari-Bankacherla Link Scheme to divert flood waters of River Godavari in violation of GWDT Award of 1980 and also AP Re-organization Act, 2014 - Request for immediate action - Reg.

- Ref:
1. Letter dated 15/11/2024 written by Hon'ble Chief Minister of AP to Union Finance Minister.
  2. Letter dated 31/12/2024 written by Hon'ble Chief Minister of AP to Union Finance Minister.
  3. PPT Presented by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of AP on 29.12.2024.
  4. Letter dated 26/11/2024 written by Ministry of Finance, GoI to Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti, GoI.
  5. Letter dated 6/1/2025 written by CWC to GRMB, KRMB and PPA seeking their opinion on this project.

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It is learnt that Hon'ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has written two letters dated 15/11/2024 and dated 31/12/2024 (first and second references above) to Union Finance Minister seeking assistance for Godavari-Bankacherla Link Scheme to divert flood waters of River Godavari to Rayalaseema region of AP which is in Penna basin. Also, during a press conference on 29<sup>th</sup> December 2024, he presented the details of this proposed scheme through a power point presentation (third reference above). This project aims to utilize flood waters from River Godavari at Polavaram by planning to divert 200 TMC of flood waters of Godavari, with a storage capacity of 150 TMC at Bollapalli, a new reservoir to be built in Guntur district of AP. This project is also named as Godavari-Krishna-Penna linking scheme.

It is learnt that Ministry of Finance, GoI has forwarded the above letters of Hon'ble Chief Minister of AP to Secretary, MoJS, GoI for taking necessary action (fourth reference above). It is also learnt that the Ministry of Jal Shakti has forwarded the letters to GRMB, KRMB and PPA seeking their inputs (fifth reference above).

In the said letters written by Hon'ble Chief Minister of AP, he has mentioned that the project has three segments, segment 1 from Godavari River to Krishna River costing Rs.13,511 crores; segment 2 from Krishna River to Bollapalle Reservoir costing Rs.28,560 crores and segment 3 from Bollapalle reservoir to Bankacherla head regulator costing Rs.38,041 crores, with the total project cost of Rs.80,112 crores. He mentioned that section 46 (2) and 46 (3) of the APRA 2014 provide for grants from the GoI for the development of backward regions of successor state of Andhra Pradesh and since the segment 3 of the river linking project will bring the surplus waters to drought prone and backward districts of Rayalaseema region, the GoI may provide allocation for the project in the union budget 2025-26, as per the provisions of the APRA - 2014.

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It is pertinent to note that while section 46 (2) and 46 (3) of the APRA 2014 provide for grants from the Gol for the development of backward regions of successor state of Andhra Pradesh, but these sections do not predominate Part-IX of APRA 2014 which deal with 'Management and Development of Water Resources' and does not specify special treatment for any region. Under the provisions of the Part-IX of APRA 2014, Gol has constituted Godavari River Management Board (GRMB), Krishna River Management Board (KRMB) and Apex Council with Union Jal Shakti Minister as Chairman and both Chief Ministers of Telangana and AP as members. Any new project proposed by any state (AP or Telangana) on interstate rivers Godavari and Krishna has to be technically approved (availability and allocation of water, inter-state issues etc.) by Central Water Commission (CWC) of MoJS, Gol; thereafter to be appraised and approved by either GRMB/KRMB and finally to be approved by the Apex Council.

It is to state that Government of AP has not taken any technical clearance from CWC, not taken approval of GRMB/KRMB and also not taken approval of the Apex Council for this project. Government of Andhra Pradesh is proposing to undertake the Godavari-Banakacherla Link scheme without adhering to the Section 85 (8)(d) and 84 (3) of the APRA 2014. The secretariats of GRMB/KRMB are duty bound to share the details of any project/letter communicated by the Govt of Andhra Pradesh to Government of Telangana and seek their opinion. However, so far, the Govt of Telangana has not received any details regarding the project from the said authorities.

It is to state that as per various inter-state agreements made part of the Godavari Water Disputes Tribunal (GWDT) Award of 1980, specific right was created in favour of erstwhile state of Andhra Pradesh (presently states of Telangana and AP) over the waters generated in different sub basins. Based on such entitlement, both the states had planned and grounded projects in Godavari Basin to a tune of 1486 TMC. It is to be noted that few projects of Telangana that are taken up on its assured waters of 968 TMC (out of this 1486 TMC) awarded by GWDT are still need to be technically cleared by CWC and GRMB. Without first clearing of the projects of Telangana based on assured waters, one cannot imagine to either plan or approve any projects of AP based on the perceived flood waters. However, the remaining waters beyond 1486 TMC are neither quantified nor apportioned between the States of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh by GWDT. Without such apportionment, it is highly inappropriate on the part of the State of Andhra Pradesh to proceed ahead by taking up projects in guise of flood waters. In fact, there are no flood waters as per the GWDT award, as such if any, all the riparian states are entitled for that, as per the law of the land. This project is in violation of GWDT Award of 1980 and significantly impacts water rights of Telangana state.

The proposed Godavari-Banakacherla project not only contravenes the provisions of APRA 2014 and GWDT Award of 1980, but also adversely affect the water rights of people of Telangana, especially of vast drought prone areas craving for water. Allowing such a project would undermine the equitable and judicious management of interstate river waters and will set a precedent contrary to the statutory framework and natural justice.



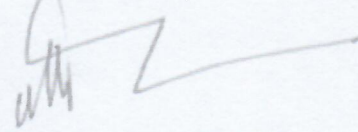
In view of the above, it is humbly requested to prevent the Government of Andhra Pradesh from taking up any further action on this project, including calling and awarding of tenders etc. It is also requested that CWC, GRMB/KRMB desist from approving this project disregarding the APRA 2014 and other statutory provisions.

Encl:

1. Letter dated 15/11/2024 written by Hon'ble Chief Minister of AP to Union Finance Minister.
2. Letter dated 31/12/2024 written by Hon'ble Chief Minister of AP to Union Finance Minister.
3. PPT Presented by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of AP on 29.12.2024.
4. Letter dated 26/11/2024 written by Ministry of Finance, Gol to Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Gol.
5. Letter dated 6/1/2025 written by CWC to GRMB, KRMB and PPA seeking their opinion on this project.

With Regards,

Yours Sincerely



(N. UTTAM KUMAR REDDY)

To  
Shri C.R. Patil,  
Minister of Jal Shakti,  
Sharam Shakti Bhavan.  
Rafi Marg,  
New Delhi.

Copy to Minister of Finance, Government of India  
Copy to KRMB/GRMB/PPA, Hyderabad and CWC, New Delhi



N. UTTAM KUMAR REDDY

Minister for Irrigation & CAD,  
Food & Civil Supplies  
Government of Telangana



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e-mail : uttamreddyn@gmail.com

D.O., Ir.no, 275/Min (I&CAD, FS)/2025 Date: 22-01-2025

Dear *Smt Abirama Sitharaman gov.*

Sub: I&CAD Dept., - ISWR - Andhra Pradesh proposal for Godavari-Bankacherla Link Scheme to divert flood waters of River Godavari in violation of GWDT Award of 1980 and also AP Re-organization Act, 2014 - Request for immediate action - Reg.

Ref: 1. Letter dated 15/11/2024 written by Hon'ble Chief Minister of AP to Union Finance Minister.  
2. Letter dated 31/12/2024 written by Hon'ble Chief Minister of AP to Union Finance Minister.

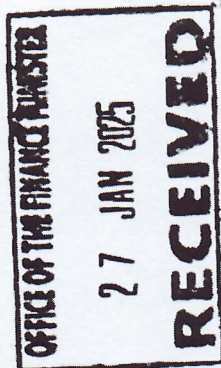
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It is learnt that Hon'ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has written two letters dated 15/11/2024 and dated 31/12/2024 (first and second references above) to your good self, seeking financial assistance for Godavari-Bankacherla Link Scheme (also named as Godavari-Krishna-Penna linking scheme) to divert flood waters of River Godavari to regions of AP which are in Penna basin. This project aims to utilize flood waters from River Godavari at Polavaram by planning to divert 200 TMC of flood waters of Godavari, with a storage capacity of 150 TMC at Bollapalli, a new reservoir to be built in Guntur district of AP.

In the said letters written by Hon'ble Chief Minister of AP, he has mentioned that the project has three segments, segment 1 from Godavari River to Krishna River costing Rs.13,511 crores; segment 2 from Krishna River to Bollapalle Reservoir costing Rs.28,560 crores and segment 3 from Bollapalle reservoir to Bankacherla head regulator costing Rs.38,041 crores, with the total project cost of Rs.80,112 crores. He mentioned that section 46 (2) and 46 (3) of the APRA 2014 provide for grants from the Gol for the development of backward regions of successor state of Andhra Pradesh and since the segment 3 of the river linking project will bring the surplus waters to drought prone and backward districts of Rayalaseema region, the Gol may provide allocation for the project in the union budget 2025-26, as per the provisions of the APRA - 2014.

It is pertinent to note that while section 46 (2) and 46 (3) of the APRA 2014 provide for grants from the Gol for the development of backward regions of successor state of Andhra Pradesh, but these sections do not predominate Part-IX of APRA 2014 which deal with 'Management and Development of Water Resources' and does not specify special treatment for any region. Under the provisions of the Part-IX of APRA 2014, Gol has constituted Godavari

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River Management Board (GRMB), Krishna River Management Board (KRMB) and Apex Council with Union Jal Shakti Minister as Chairman and both Chief Ministers of Telangana and AP as members. Any new project proposed by any state (AP or Telangana) on interstate rivers Godavari and Krishna has to be technically approved (availability and allocation of water, interstate issues etc.) by Central Water Commission (CWC) of MoJS, GoI; thereafter to be appraised and approved by either GRMB/KRMB and finally to be approved by the Apex Council.

It is to state that Government of AP has not taken any technical clearance from CWC, not taken approval of GRMB/KRMB and also not taken approval of the Apex Council for this project. Government of Andhra Pradesh is proposing to undertake the Godavari-Banakacherla Link scheme without adhering to the Section 85 (8)(d) and 84 (3) of the APRA 2014.

It is to state that as per the allocation by Godavari Water Disputes Tribunal (GWDT), both the states had planned and grounded projects in Godavari Basin to a tune of 1486 TMC. However, the remaining waters beyond 1486 TMC are neither quantified nor apportioned between the States of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh by GWDT. Without such apportionment, it is highly inappropriate on the part of the State of Andhra Pradesh to proceed ahead by taking up projects in guise of flood waters.

Any financial allocations by GoI either budgetary or grant or international financial aid to this project would adversely affect the water rights of people of Telangana, especially of vast drought prone areas craving for water. Allowing such a project would undermine the equitable and judicious management of interstate river waters and will set a precedent contrary to the statutory framework and natural justice.

In view of the above, it is humbly requested to not allocate any financial assistance to this project and also prevent the Andhra Pradesh from taking up any further action on this project, including calling and awarding of tenders etc.

With Regards,

Yours sincerely

(N. UTTAM KUMAR REDDY)

To  
Smt. Nirmala Sitaraman,  
Union Finance Minister,  
New Delhi.

Copy to Minister of Jal Shakti, Government of India