



COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA (MARXIST)

ANDHRA PRADESH COMMITTEE

H.No. 27-30-9, CPI(M) State Committee Office

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ప్రచురణార్థం/ప్రసారార్థం :

విజయవాడ,

తేది : 14 సెప్టెంబర్, 2025.

**పోలవరం నిర్వాసితులు, గిరిజన సమస్యలపై
కేంద్ర జలశక్తి మంత్రిని కలిసిన సిపిఐ(యం) రాష్ట్ర బృందం**

ఈరోజు సిపిఐ(యం) రాష్ట్ర ప్రతినిధి బృందం న్యూఢిల్లీలో కేంద్ర జలశక్తి మంత్రి శ్రీ సి.ఆర్.పాటిల్, స్టేట్ ప్రాజెక్టు కమిషనర్ శ్రీ ప్రవీణ్ కుమార్, మినిస్ట్రీ ఆఫ్ జలశక్తి జాయింట్ సెక్రటరీ ప్రదీప్ గార్లను కలిసింది. పోలవరం నిర్వాసితుల సమస్యలు విన్నవించడం జరిగింది. వారు సమస్యలపై సానుకూలంగా స్పందించారు. వీటి పరిష్కారానికి ఉన్నత స్థాయి కమిటీని ఏర్పాటు చేసి పంపిస్తామని హామీ ఇచ్చారు. ఈ బృందంలో సిపిఐ(యం) రాష్ట్ర కార్యదర్శి వి.శ్రీనివాసరావు, కేంద్ర కమిటీ సభ్యులు కె.లోకనాథం, పార్లమెంటు రాజ్యసభ సభ్యులు జాన్ బ్రిట్టాస్, రాష్ట్ర కార్యదర్శివర్గ సభ్యులు కిల్లో సురేంద్ర, ఎ.ఎస్.ఆర్ జిల్లా కార్యదర్శి బొప్పెన్న కిరణ్ మరియు ఏలూరు జిల్లా కమిటీ సభ్యులు డి.రమేష్ ఉన్నారు. మంత్రిగారికి సమర్పించిన మెమోరాండం జతచేస్తున్నాము.

J. Jayaram
(జి.జయరాం)
ఆఫీసు కార్యదర్శి

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Vijayawada
14 September, 2025

To
Shri. C. R. Patil
Hon'ble Minister for Jal Shakti
Government of India
New Delhi

Subject: Request to take immediate measures to implement R&R package for Polavaram Irrigation Project

Honourable Sir,

Polavaram Project is a National Project. The Andhra Pradesh Re-Organisation Act, 2014, as approved by the Parliament, recognised that Polavaram Project is a National Project. The project construction began in 2005.

You are aware that as part of project construction, R&R to be implemented for the displaced people is very important. Total cost including rehabilitation is the responsibility of the Union Government. There are 1,06,000 families in 392 villages of 8 mandals that are getting submerged, thereby losing everything. Independent estimates suggest that 2 to 3 lakh people will be uprooted when Full Reservoir Level (FRL) is reached. R&R package is not given as per the Land Acquisition Act, 2013. The DPR of the project assessed that the R&R would cost about Rs. 33,000 crore. But, so far, only Rs 5,200 crore was spent on R&R. Recently Rs. 824 crore was sanctioned for this purpose. But most of these funds went to contractors for the construction of houses. This covered only about 10% of the entire Project Displaced Families (PDFs), that too partially. It also needs to be noted that the area comes under the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution.

Both the Union as well as State Governments have divided the Project into two phases. During the first phase, at 41.5 meters level, they assessed that only 20 villages would be submerged, and that there would be around 20,000 displaced persons. But this is not the factual position. In the past, even before the flood level reached 40 meters, 193 villages were submerged in the floods. A massive protest from the people resulted in adding another 18 villages in addition to previous 20 villages. The cost of Rehabilitation was decided to be Rs. 20,980 crore. But, all the villages that would be submerged at 45.5 meters level, the government says were inundated in the floods last year. The flood submerged many villages irrespective of the stage of the project, or the contour level. These facts have been completely ignored by the State as well as Union Governments. All the colonies

that were built to rehabilitate PDFs were submerged in 2022 floods. Five mandals of Alluri Sitharama Raju district and three mandals in Eluru district remain submerged for more than hundred days during 2022 floods. Thousands of families were rendered homeless and underwent untold hardships. Therefore, all these faulty surveys and assessments should be rejected and rehabilitation should be provided on the basis of the experiences of floods that occurred in 1986 as well as 2022. For that fresh survey should be taken up to assess factual loss of submerged villages.

Although the dam construction under this project, which began in 2006, is 56% complete, rehabilitation has not even reached 12%. Even the rehabilitation that has been carried out is fraught with numerous deficiencies, causing severe hardships to the displaced people. We request your authority to ensure that the Union Government immediately address and take action on the following issues:

- 1) The State Government has announced that the project will be split into two stages, with water storage initially at 41.15 meters and rehabilitation provided only for 38 villages in the first stage. These Contour calculations were proven false by the floods in 2022. We request that complete rehabilitation be provided in a single stage (45.75mts.) for all affected persons, offering land in lieu of land, house construction, and the full R&R package. The package must be given to every individual who has completed 18 years of age by July 2025 or when the displacement began. Even married daughters who were excluded in previous rehabilitation that was implemented must be included.
- 2) According to official figures only 12,658 families are rehabilitated out of the 38,060 families that come under the 1st phase. Total families affected are 1,06,000. The official estimation in 2017 was Rs. 33,000 crore for the total cost of the project. But the state government asked to update it for 55,000 crore. As per old estimates, union government has to provide Rs. 33,000 crore for R&R package. But, till now only Rs. 5,900 crore was reimbursed. Therefore we are requesting you to provide the full amount on priority basis for the R&R package.
- 3) Serious errors/discrepancies have occurred in identifying the submerged villages. In the same village, one side of a road is declared submerged while the other is not. Some houses have received compensation while others have not. This arbitrariness must be corrected. Eg: Ramavaram in VR Puram mandal and Mukkunoor in Chintoor mandal.
- 4) Compensation for land should be ₹6.5 lakhs per acre, as announced by the previous state government. The R&R package should be implemented at ₹10 lakhs per family. In cases of land-for-land compensation, fertile and cultivable land must be allotted. We are requesting to grant Rs. 20 lakh per acre for the land that is being acquired.

- 5) Minimum basic facilities must be provided in the rehabilitation colonies. These should include protected drinking water, roads, drainage, street lights, toilets, ration shops, schools, hospitals, Anganwadi centers, transportation burial grounds and all other necessary amenities.
- 6) Out of the 75 colonies to be constructed under the 1st phase, only 26 colonies were completed. The constructed houses are leaking. Compensation should be paid for this, and action must be taken against the contractors responsible.
- 7) For Rehabilitation colonies and land-for-land compensation, tribal LTR lands are being acquired in violation of the 1/70 Act. Land should be acquired from non-tribal landowners instead. Previously acquired lands have been illegally leased out and are being enjoyed by powerful landlords, high-level public representatives, and officials. This corruption must be stopped, and action taken against the corrupt individuals involved. New land acquisitions are perpetuating this corruption, which must be prevented. Land acquisition should be continued only after asset of Grama Sabha/PESA meeting.

Pattas were issued for “Podu lands” under the Forest Rights Act. However, holders of the Pattas are not being given compensation. They are being told that their lands are forest lands. But actually these lands are statutorily owned by Tribals, for which Pattas have been issued under the Forest Rights Act. The spirit of the law is being violated in its implementation. The act should be enforced in its true intention. Action must be taken against officials who disrespect the law and harass tribals. Thanking you.

Yours sincerely,

John Brittas
MP, Rajya Sabha
CPI(M)

V. Srinivasa Rao
State Secretary
CPI(M)

K. Lokanadham
Central Committee Member
CPI(M)

Killo Surendra
State Secretariat Member
CPI(M)

B. Kiran
Dist Secretary, ASR
CPI(M)

D. Ramesh
Dist Committee Member, Eluru
CPI(M)