

2nd RCE of Lower Suktel Irrigation Project- Odisha

The DPR of this project was received in PAO, CWC for appraisal on 09.01.2017 (CCA-23500 Ha, Estimated Cost- 2448.09 Crore at 2015 PL).

This project was originally approved by 66th TAC held on 04.02.1997 (CCA: 23500 Ha; Estimated Cost: 217.13 Crore at 1994 PL) and first RCE was approved by 101st TAC held on 30.11.2009 (CCA: 23500 Ha; Estimated Cost: 1041.81 Crore at 2008-09 PL)

River/Basin- Suktel/Mahanadi

Lower Suktel irrigation project is located in the district of Balangar in the state of Odisha. The project is designed to utilise the water resources of river Suktel which is a tributary to river Tel of Mahanadi basin. The basic purpose of construction of Lower Suktel project is to provide irrigation in the perpetually draught prone areas of Bolangir district. Other subsidiary but equally vital purpose is to provide drinking water to Bolangir town and sub-urbs.

Scheme is located in Mahanadi basin on Suktel river. Catchment area is 1275 sqm. and C.C.A. is 23,500 ha. Scheme benefits districts of Bolangir and Sonepur of Odisha. B.C. ratio is 1.35.

Inter State Matter:

Discrepancy in CCA: Under Salient Features in DPR, point no. VIII (2), CCA mentioned is 23,500 Ha. However, in Index and Ayacut Map, CCA mentioned as 31,820 Ha. This discrepancy needs to be rectified.

CWC, in January 2017, noted that as per the DPR, the Planning Commission subsequently accorded Investment Clearance to the project in March, 2010 for CCA of 23500 Ha & Annual Irrigation of 29845 Ha. Hence, presuming the information given about CCA and Annual Irrigation in the Salient Features of the DPR is correct, the DPR for RCE does not require examination from the inter-state angle as per the existing Guidelines of CWC, as there is no change in the project parameter (CCA & Annual Irrigation) as approved by the erstwhile Planning Commission and as mentioned in the Salient Features in DPR. So the correct position about the salient features may be informed.

In order to resolve inter-state issue a meeting was scheduled on 12.04.2018 which was postponed due to request of Chhattisgarh. Again in December, 2018 the meeting was scheduled but due to objections raised by Chhattisgarh the same was again postponed. Finally in October, 2019 the project was return to Odisha, since concurrence of co-basin state could not be obtained, hence appraisal can be done only after notification of Tribunal award.

The project was returned to the State Govt of Odisha vide letter no T-28036/1/2019-PA-N DTE dated 03.10.2019 and it was requested that the project proposal may be submitted afresh based on the award of MWDT.

