

## Lower Vamsadhara Stage-1 Project

The Lower Vansadhara Project (Stage-I) initially envisaged construction of:

- A 3200 m long earthen dam across Sananadi River near village Khaira in Rayagada District,
- Left Main Canal (LMC) of 74.245 km long off taking from the proposed earthen dam to provide annual irrigation to an area of 19702 Ha (CCA: 12237 Ha and intensity of irrigation of 161%),
- A 1850 m long Barrage across the river Vansadhara near village Panidanagar and
- Right Main Canal (RMC) having a length of 47.675 km off taking from the proposed barrage to provide annual irrigation of 10111 Ha (CCA: 6289 Ha and irrigation intensity of 161%).

The Feasibility Report of Lower Vansadhara Project was circulated for examination in April 2012. The DPR was circulated to appraise the inter-state issues pertaining to the project. CWC has not cleared the project from hydrological point of view with a suggestion to carry out analysis as per approach mentioned.

Further, with respect to the inter-state matters, CWC noted that the project(s) cannot be considered from Inter-State angle keeping in view of the Vamsadhara Water Dispute Tribunal (VWDT) constituted by MoWR in 2010 on the request of Govt of Odisha. CWC also quoted that MoWR issued Guidelines in January 2006 for giving techno-economic clearance to Projects in a basin where an Inter-State Water Dispute Tribunal has been constituted to examine inter-state allocation of water and related issues in a basin.

Government of Andhra Pradesh vide its letter dated 23.10.2013 has requested not to sanction any project on Vamsadhara River and its river valley thereof as the matter is subjudice.

Further, the final order and the decision of the Vansadhara Water Dispute Tribunal was released on 17/09/2017. Consequently, the state govt of Odisha has re-submitted the revised/updated DPR to CWC in May, 2018 for appraisal. The present proposal comprising of a Barrage at Panidanagar and a dam at Sananadi provide irrigation facilities to an area of CCA 9204 and 12946 Ha respectively in the Raygada and Gajapati District of Odisha. The DPR has been circulated to the various specialised Directorates of CWC as well as the other concerned central agencies.

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