Long Term Irrigation Fund (LTIF) - long term benefits for Indian irrigation

The 2016-17 Union Budget made a path breaking announcement in the sector of irrigation - setting up of Long Term Irrigation Fund (LTIF) in NABARD with an initial corpus of Rs 20,000 crore for funding of irrigation projects which were languishing incomplete for want of funds for many years.

Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR, RD & GR), Government of India obtained Cabinet approval on 27 July 2016, for funding of 99 projects identified under LTIF. The overall estimated financial requirement towards Central Assistance and State Share has been assessed as Rs.77,908 crore (Central Share – Rs.31,342 cr and Rs.313 cr for concurrent evaluation, social audit etc ; State Share – Rs.46,253 cr) over 4 years i.e. up to December 2019.

Polavaram National Project has also been added for funding under LTIF for which an amount of Rs.3,960.90 crore (Rs.2,981.54 cr during 2016-17 & Rs.979.36 cr during 2017-18) has been sanctioned as Central share to NWDA. The likely irrigation potential of 78.941 lakh ha. (including Polavaram project – 2.91 lakh ha.) would be created on completion of these projects.

Features of LTIF loan – Tenure -15 years with 3 years moratorium @ 6 %

Pursuant to this announcement, displaying complete professionalism and speed NABARD has sanctioned Rs.49,889.60 crore and released Rs.9,086.03 crore during 2016-17. The cumulative sanction and release as on 30 September 2017, stands to Rs.50,872.37 crore Rs.12,029.86 crores respectively.

The details of loan amount sanctioned and released towards Central & State Share for Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) and Command Area Development & Water Management (CADWM) component-wise, as on 30 September 2017 are as under :

(Rs.in crore)						
Componets	AIBP		CADWM		Total	
Share	Sanctioned	Released	Sanctioned	Released	Sanctioned	Released
Central	18243.76	2884.97	12614.28	853.90	30858.03	3738.87
State	14525.49	4887.00	1527.95	10.47	16053.44	4897.47
Sub Total	32769.25	777 1.9 7	14142.23	864.37	46911.47	8636.34
Polavaram	3960.90	3393.52	0.00	0.00	3960.90	3393.52
Grand Total	36730.15	11165.49	14142.23	864.37	50872.37	12029.86

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