

Pulichintala project

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A hydraulic operated gate at **KL Rao Multi Purpose Irrigation project (Pulichintala)** was washed away following a massive discharge into the dam.



About Pulichintala project:

- Dr K.L.Rao Sagar Pulichintala Project is a balancing reservoir **constructed across river Krishna** near Pulichinta Village in Guntur District of Andhra Pradesh.
- Pulichintala was conceived to **stabilise the Krishna delta ayacut** for raising paddy seedbeds and transplantation period.
- It is 85 km **upstream of the Prakasham barrage** and 115 km downstream of the **Nagarjunasagar dam**.
- Pulichintala was the only site where a dam **with significant storage capacity** could be built before the Krishna joins the Bay of Bengal.
- The dam is a **multipurpose in nature**, supplying irrigation water to the Krishna delta through powerhouses generating 120 MW of hydel power.

Background:

- The Pulichintala project was dropped as an entire ayacut originally proposed to be irrigated under it was covered by Nagarjunasagar.
- However, due to the rapid development of the command area under the Nagarjunasagar and other projects on the Krishna in the upper reaches, water supplies to the Prakasham barrage have been dwindling.
- The reduced inflows during the transplantation period are impacting the yields of paddy, the main crop in the Krishna delta.

- **To bridge this gap**, Pulichinintala project was developed as a balancing reservoir on the Krishna.

[Ref: The Hindu]