

**Bill No. 54 of 2019**

**THE MEGA PROJECTS (TIMELY COMPLETION) BILL, 2019**

*By*

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH, M.P.

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**BILL**

*to provide for timely completion of all mega projects and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.*

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventieth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

**1.** (1) This Act may be called the Mega Projects (Timely Completion) Act, 2019.

Short title,  
extent and  
commence-  
ment.

(2) It extends to the whole of India.

5 (3) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

**2.** In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

Definitions.

10 (i) ‘mega project’ means any project which has been undertaken by the Central Government either on its own or as a joint venture with any State Government or a Corporation or a Company or a private limited company for setting up of any industry

or construction of any dam, irrigation scheme or roads or any communication facility or power project or any other developmental scheme for the welfare of the public in any part of the country or where the major share of the expenses on the project is borne by the Central Government and where the cost of project exceeds fifty crore rupees; and

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(ii) 'prescribed' means prescribed by rules made under the Act.

Preparation of list of pending mega projects.

**3.** The Central Government shall prepare a list of mega projects pending with all Ministries and departments of the Central Government including public sector undertakings under its control.

Constitution of a Committee to be known as the Project Monitoring Committee.

**4. (1) The Central Government shall constitute a Committee to be known as the Project Monitoring Committee (hereinafter referred to as the Committee) to monitor the progress of implementation and completion of mega projects.**

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(2) The Project Monitoring Committee shall consist of the following:—

(i) the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission who shall be the Convener of the Committee;

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(ii) Secretaries of the Central Ministries of Finance, Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises, Road Transport and Highways, Shipping, Civil Aviation, Power and Agriculture as members;

(iii) any other Minister or Secretary of the Central Government or of a State Government who may be invited by the Convener of the Committee to attend the sittings of the Committee; and

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(iv) **Seven persons who are experts in the fields of Agriculture, Power, Water Resources, Industry, Civil Aviation, Transport and Shipping as members.**

Review of the progress of the implementation of the mega projects in the country.

**5.** The Committee shall review the progress of the implementation of all the mega projects and fix a target date for completion of each of such projects.

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Meeting of the Committee.

**6.** The Committee shall meet once in a month and review the progress of the work of the pending mega projects.

Central Government to provide fund for completion of the mega project.

**7. The Central Government shall, on the basis of the recommendation of the Committee, release necessary funds for completion of a mega project.**

Timely completion of mega projects.

**8.** The Central Government shall ensure completion of all mega projects within the time schedule fixed by the Committee:

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Provided that if any mega project is not completed within the time schedule, due to any reason beyond the control of the Central Government, the Central Government shall record the reasons therefor.

Fixing responsibility for delay in completion of mega project.

**9.** If any project is not completed within the time schedule, except for the reasons beyond control, the officer-in-charge of the mega project shall be held responsible for the delay and shall be subject to such disciplinary action as the Central Government may think fit:

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Provided that in case the delay in the completion of the project has occurred on account of lapse on the part of any private company, in the first instance, such private company shall be punishable with a fine which may extend to ten lakh rupees and for second and subsequent occasion, its licence of such private company shall be cancelled.

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**10.** The Central Government shall cause the annual report together with a memorandum of action taken on the recommendations contained therein, insofar as they relate to the Central Government and the reasons for non-implementation, if any, of any of such recommendations of the Committee to be laid as soon as may be after the reports are received, before each House of Parliament.

Central Government to lay report on action taken in the House.

**11.** (1) The Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the provisions of this Act.

Power to make rules.

(2) Every rule made under this Act shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament, while it is in session, for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification in the rule or both the Houses agree that the rule should not be made, the rule shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be; so, however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule.

#### STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Development is the buzzword today in emerging India, even as the country resolves to build an economically stronger, more efficient set up which is devoid of bureaucratic delays.

Mega projects popularly known as infrastructure projects are started with much pomp and show. But they are hardly completed in time. The estimated cost of projects always overrun for the simple reason that the projects are not completed within the target date. In many cases, the escalation in cost of projects result in manifold expenditure and loss to the public exchequer. Time and cost overruns in projects in the environment of uncertainties, inadequate funding, delay in land acquisition, law and order problems, general escalation in costs, etc. are required to be eliminated altogether.

At present, there is no mechanism to supervise the progress of the completion of mega projects. Moreover, for many projects necessary funds are not released by the Central Government. As a result, the projects are held up.

Therefore, in order to ensure timely completion of all projects, it is proposed to provide a mechanism at the bureaucratic level and also accountability of the executive to the legislature.

The Bill seeks to achieve the above objective.

NEW DELHI;  
*June 4, 2019.*

SUNIL KUMAR SINGH

#### FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

Clause 4 of the Bill seeks to provide for the setting up of a Committee to monitor the progress of implementation and timely completion of mega projects. Most of the members in the Committee will be Government functionaries, but a few experts in the fields of agriculture, power, etc. are to be associated with the Committee. Clause 7 provides for release of necessary funds by the Central Government for completion of all mega projects. The Bill, therefore, if enacted will involve expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India. It is likely to involve an annual recurring expenditure of about rupees forty thousand crore from the Consolidated Fund of India.

A non-recurring expenditure of about rupees seventy thousand crore will also be involved.

#### MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Clause 11 of the Bill empowers the Central Government to make rules for carrying out the purposes of the Bill. As the rules will relate to matters of detail only, the delegation of legislative power is of a normal character.

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*(Shri Sunil Kumar Singh, M.P.)*