

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 96

ANSWERED ON 22.07.2024

KEN BETWA LINK PROJECT

96#. SMT. GEETA ALIAS CHANDRAPRABHA

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether all the formalities of Ken Betwa Link Project have been completed by Government after obtaining consent from the concerned States;
- (b) if so, the present status of the scheme;
- (c) whether any time limit has been fixed for completion of this project, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the States which will be benefitted from this project and the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJBHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) & (b) The Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) for the implementation of the Ken-Betwa Link Project (KBLP) amongst the Union Minister for Jal Shakti and the Chief Ministers of Madhya Pradesh (MP) and Uttar Pradesh (UP) was signed on 22nd March, 2021 in the august presence of the Prime Minister of India.

The Government of India approved for the implementation of the KBLP in December, 2021, at an estimated cost of Rs 44,605 crore (2020-21 price level) with a Central Support of Rs 39,317 crore, through a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), viz; Ken-Betwa Link Project Authority (KBLPA) under the Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (DoWR, RD & GR).

With allocation of necessary budget by the Central Government, under the Revised Budget Estimates of Financial Year (FY) 2021-22, the implementation of the project has started. Vide Gazette Notification dated 11th February 2022 of the DoWR, RD & GR, a Steering Committee and the SPV, namely, the KBLPA for the implementation of project, jointly by Government of India and the State Governments of MP and UP have been constituted. Five meetings of the Steering Committee and six meetings of the KBLPA have been held so far.

Most of the statutory clearances for the implementation of this link project have been obtained from the respective Ministries/Departments. A Greater Panna Landscape Council (GPLC) under the Chief Secretary, Government of Madhya Pradesh has been constituted for implementation of the Landscape Management Plan of the Panna Tiger Reserve (PTR). Initial focus is on land acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R), and fulfilling the compliance to the conditions of the forest clearance and wildlife clearance.

A total expenditure of Rs. 9,105.01 crore has been made on the project upto June, 2024 including Rs. 2,449.39 crore from state budget. A provision of Rs. 4,000 Crore has been kept in the FY 2024-25 in the Union budget for the KBLP.

(c) The project is envisaged to be completed in 8 years by March, 2030 with interim benefits accruing from the year 2026 onward.

(d) The KBLP shall provide extensive benefits to the water-short Bundelkhand region in the States of MP and UP. It shall benefit nine districts of MP and 4 districts of UP. The project will provide annual irrigation to an area of 10.62 lakh ha (8.11 lakh ha in MP and 2.51 lakh ha in UP). The project will also provide 194 MCM of water for enroute drinking water supply to a population of 62 lakh (41 lakh in MP and 21 lakh in UP). In addition, the project will also generate 103 Megawatt (MW) of Hydro Power and 27 MW of Solar Power.
