

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 879

ANSWERED ON 27.07.2026

KOSI-MECHI INTRA-STATE LINK PROJECT

879 Prof. MANOJ KUMAR JHA:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) the sanctioned cost, funding pattern and completion schedule of the Kosi-Mechi link project and the physical progress achieved;
- (b) the status of the long-pending proposal for a high dam on the Kosi in Nepal and the outcome of India-Nepal Joint Committee meetings held during 2025-26;
- (c) the amount released to the State of Bihar under the Flood Management and Border Areas Programme during the last three years against the assessed requirement; and
- (d) whether a permanent Kosi-Gandak basin authority is under consideration, given that North Bihar accounts for a disproportionate share of India's flood-affected population year after year?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) The Kosi–Mechi Intra-State Link Project has been included under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayi Yojana – Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (PMKSY-AIBP) for balance cost of works of Rs. 6,143.22 crore, with central assistance of Rs. 3,652.56 crore. The project is scheduled for completion by March 2029. The remodeling work of Eastern Kosi Main Canal from K.M. 0.00 to 41.30 has been taken up at an awarded contract value Rs. 2639.80 crore. Physical progress of 8.5% has been achieved so far.

(b) The Government of India is engaged in regular dialogue with the Government of Nepal regarding construction of dams on the Kosi River for the mutual benefit of both countries, including flood control. A Joint Project Office (JPO-SKSKI) was constituted in 2003 with the mandate to prepare the Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the Sapta-Kosi Multipurpose Project and Sun-Kosi Kamla Diversion Multipurpose project. The status of preparation the DPRs of these projects is as under.

- i. Sapta Kosi Multipurpose Project: The work of topographical surveys, construction material survey, water quality survey, inland navigation studies, hydrological studies, seismological studies, drilling (1,258m), communication survey, glacial lake outburst flood (GLOF) studies have been completed.

- ii. Sun-Kosi Kamla Diversion Multipurpose project: The work of topographical surveys, water quality survey, hydrological studies, seismological studies, drilling (1,549m), communication survey, glacial lake outburst flood (GLOF) studies have been completed for Sun-Kosi Kamla Diversion Multipurpose project.

Further, no meeting of Indo-Nepal Joint Committee was held during 2025-26.

(c) Central assistance of Rs. 206.77 Crore has been released to the State of Bihar under the Flood Management and Border Areas Programme during last three years.

(d) No proposal for a permanent Kosi-Gandak basin authority is under consideration of the Government of India.
