

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO: 252
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.03.2022

Impact of the Ken-Betwa Link Project

252. SHRI MOHAMMED FAIZAL P.P.:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the impact of Ken Betwa project on local population that will be displaced by the project implementation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, including the number of persons to be displaced and if not, reasons therefore;
- (c) whether the displaced persons will be relocated and provided with any form of compensation;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the details of the measures taken to ensure that local populations were provided detailed information about the project before being asked to attend public hearings?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV)

(a) to (e) Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e), OF LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 252 FOR ANSWER ON 21/03/2022 RAISED BY SHRI
MOHAMMED FAIZAL P.P. REGARDING IMPACT OF THE KEN-BETWA LINK
PROJECT**

The Ken-Betwa Link Project is a river link project with the main aim of transferring surplus water of Ken basin to water deficit Betwa basin. The project comprises two phases namely:

1. Ken-Betwa Link Project Phase – I
2. Ken-Betwa Link Project, Phase–II

The Ken-Betwa Link Project Phase – I comprises following components:

- i. Construction of an earth fill and concrete dam near Daudhan village on Ken river.
- ii. Link canal for transferring water from Ken river to Betwa basin.

The Ken-Betwa Link Project, Phase–II envisages construction of following projects:

- i. Lower Orr Dam project at Village Didoni, Tehsil Chanderi, District Ashok Nagar, Madhya Pradesh
- ii. Kotha Barrage major irrigation project at Village Kotha, Tehsil Kurwai, District Vidisha, Madhya Pradesh
- iii. Bina Complex Multipurpose Project (32MW) at Village Chakarpur, Tehsil Sagar, District Sagar in Madhya Pradesh

The Ministry has delineated a detailed procedure for comprehensive assessment of environmental and social impacts of the project in the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006, as amended; which *inter-alia* provides for preparation of Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Report, Environmental Management Plan (EMP), Disaster Management Plan (DMP) and Public Consultation. The Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) comprising domain area experts, after detailed examination and deliberation on various environmental and social aspects of the project, recommend the project for grant of Environmental Clearance by suggesting suitable mitigation measures and Environment Management to minimize the environmental and social impacts associated with the project.

The following projects under Ken- Betwa Link project have been granted Environmental Clearance (EC) under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 after detailed appraisal by the EAC/SEAC constituted by the Ministry:

- i. Ken-Betwa Link Project Phase-I at Village Daudhan, Tehsil Bijawar, District Chhatarpur in Madhya Pradesh (EC has been accorded by MoEF&CC on 25.08.2017)
- ii. Bina Complex Multipurpose Project (32MW) at Village Chakarpur, Tehsil Sagar, District Sagar in Madhya Pradesh (EC has been accorded by MoEF&CC on 22.02.2017)
- iii. Kotha Barrage major irrigation project at Village Kotha, Tehsil Kurwai, District Vidisha, Madhya Pradesh (EC has been accorded by State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority, MP on 21.08.2020).

While deliberating on environmental and social issues associated with the above mentioned projects the EAC has observed the following:

1. Ken - Betwa Link Project Phase-I

- i. The total land required for Ken-Betwa Link Project Phase-I is about 13236 ha out of which the forest land is about 5339 ha.
- ii. Panna Tiger Reserve falls within the 10 km radius of the project.
- iii. 10 villages consisting of 1,585 families will be relocated.
- iv. Total cost for compensation of properties works out to Rs. 17.64 Crores.
- v. The Economic Rehabilitation and Resettlement package as per the second schedule of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act 2013 has been worked out for 2667 households (which is inclusive of 1913 PAF head households and 754 major children) identified under the Social Economic Survey (SES) and is estimated at a cost of Rs. 220.14 Crores. The total cost of Resettlement and Economic Rehabilitation is estimated at about Rs. 1,256.25 Crores including cost of land acquisition.
- vi. Total budget allocation for implementation of Environmental Management Plan is Rs. 5,064.91 Crores which inter alia includes expenditure related catchment area treatment, afforestation, reforestation, erosion control by engineering/mechanical measures, development of agricultural lands, muck disposal management, silt management, command area management, habitat improvement in Panna Tiger Reserve, conservation of endangered species, green belt development, Fisheries conservation and development, surface and ground water management, public health management, tourism development, Resettlement and Rehabilitation etc.
- vii. Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board (MPPCB) published a public notice on 21st & 23rd November, 2014 in local News Paper Dainik Bhaskar and Hindustan regarding public hearing. A time period of 30 days was allowed for public to respond. The Public Hearing was conducted on 23rd & 27th December, 2014 in Chattarpur & Panna Districts respectively as per provisions of the EIA, Notification, 2006 as amended.

2. Ken-Betwa Link Project, Phase-II-Bina Complex Multipurpose Project

- i. Total land requirement 12,671.18 ha out of which forest area is 1024.44 ha.
- ii. Total submergence area is 10391.88 ha
- iii. No National Park, Sanctuary, Defense Establishments, Archeological Monuments Notified Eco-sensitive areas or protected area under Wildlife (Protection) Act exists within the project area or within 10 km distance from it.
- iv. 2957 families in 82 villages, of which 34 villages are coming in District Raisen and 48 villages are coming under Sagar District, will lose homestead and land due to submergence.
- v. Total budget allocation for implementation of Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) Plan is Rs. 1609.28 Crores.
- vi. Total budget allocation for implementation of Environmental Management Plan is 1735.05 Crores which inter alia includes expenditure related to afforestation and biodiversity conservation, fisheries management, environment management in labour camp, public health delivery system, restoration and landscaping of construction site, muck management, green belt development, pollution control measures in air and water, energy conservation measures, public awareness program, Resettlement and Rehabilitation, catchment area treatment plan, disaster management plan, environmental monitoring etc.

- vii. Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board (MPPCB) published a public notice on 13.04.2016 in local News Paper Dainik Bhaskar and and Nai Duniya in Raisen, Vidisha (Patrika and Dainik bhaskar on 13.04.2016) and Sagar (DanikBhaskar on 26.04.2016 and Hindustan Times on 27.04.2016) Districts regarding public hearing as per provisions of the EIA, Notification, 2006 as amended. A time period of 30 days was allowed for the public to respond. The Public Hearing was conducted in Raisen District on 18th May, 2016, Vidhisha District on 20th May, 2016 and in Sagar District on 27th May, 2016 respectively as per provisions of the EIA, Notification, 2006 as amended.

3. Ken–Betwa Link Project, Phase–II-Kotha Barrage Major Irrigation Project

- i. The total land requirement is 1359 ha which is comprised of 678 ha revenue land and 681 ha private land respectively. No diversion of forest land required for project.
- ii. Total submergence area is 1359 ha.
- iii. No National Park, Sanctuary, Defense Establishments, Archeological Monuments Notified Eco-sensitive areas or protected area under Wildlife (Protection) Act exists within the project area or within 10 km distance from it.
- iv. There are 638 project-affected families (Titleholders) whose land would be acquired but no family would be displaced. Owing to acquisition of land, 27 villages would be partially affected.
- v. Total budget allocation for implementation of Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) Plan is Rs. 141.58 Crores.
- vi. Total budget allocation for implementation of Environmental Management Plan cost is 169.93 Crores which inter alia includes expenditure related to biodiversity conservation, fisheries management, restoration and landscaping, muck management, green belt development, pollution control measures in air and water, energy conservation measures, public health delivery, activates of Corporate Environment Responsibility, Resettlement and Rehabilitation, catchment area treatment plan, command area treatment plan, reservoir rim treatment, disaster management plan, environmental monitoring etc.
- vii. Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board (MPPCB) published a public notice for conducting Public Hearing on 8th June, 2018 in Hindi Daily, “Dainik Bhaskar”, “Nav-Dunia” daily newspaper of Vidisha on 8th June, 2019. A time period of 30 days was allowed for public to respond. The Public Hearing was conducted on 10th July, 2019 in District Vidisha.
