

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3935**

ANSWERED ON 19.12.2024

**DELAY IN COMPLETION OF NORTH KOEL RESERVOIR PROJECT**

†3935. SHRI ABHAY KUMAR SINHA

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

- (a) the reasons for the inordinate delay in the completion of the North Koel Reservoir Project;
- (b) the total funds allocated and utilised for the said ambitious project so far;
- (c) whether any committee has been constituted by the Government to monitor the implementation of the said project and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the time by which the said project is likely to be completed?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI**

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

**(a) to (d)** The construction of North Koel Reservoir project started in the year 1972 by Govt. of Bihar was stopped in 1993 due to delay in requisite clearance from Forest Department of Govt of Bihar.

In August, 2017, the Union Government approved the proposal for balance works of North Koel Reservoir Project. However, the progress of works at the project has been affected due to several reasons like time taken in requisite clearance from Forest Department of Government of Jharkhand, agitation by the local villagers at the dam site and time taken by the Government of Bihar for concurrence of works to be carried out in Bihar portion.

The Union Government, in October, 2023, approved the proposal to complete the balance works of North Koel Reservoir Project at a revised Cost of Rs. 2430.76 Crore (Central Share: Rs 1,836.41 Crore). An amount of Rs. 771.04 Crore, as Central Share, has been released till date. The target date for completing the balance works of the project is March 2026 as per the timeline set during approval of the project in October, 2023.

An Empowered Committee headed by Secretary, Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation and a Technical Evaluation Committee headed by Member (WP&P), Central Water Commission and having members from Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, both the State Governments of Bihar and Jharkhand and Water & Power Consultancy Services (India) Ltd. have been monitoring the progress of implementation of the balance works of the project.

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