

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5472**

ANSWERED ON 03.04.2025

**APPROVAL OF DPR OF KOSI-MECHI LINK PROJECT**

†5472.       SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV

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

- (a) whether the Detailed Project Report (DPR) of the Kosi-Mechi Link Project, which is crucial for both flood management and irrigation in Bihar, is pending for approval with the National Water Development Agency (NWDA) for central funding;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the time by which the said DPR is likely to be approved?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI**

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

**(a) to (c)** The Kosi-Mechi intra-State Link Project envisages diversion of a part of the surplus water of Kosi river for extending irrigation to unirrigated areas of the Mahananda river basin, by way of extending the existing Eastern Kosi Main Canal (EKMC) beyond its tail end up to river Mechi, so that rivers Kosi and Mechi, which flow through Bihar, could be linked together within the State. The Link Project will provide additional irrigation facilities in Kharif season to an area of 2,10,516 hectare (ha) in new command enroute of the link canal in Mahananda basin between rivers Parman and Mechi covering and benefiting Araria, Purnea, Kishanganj and Katihar districts of Bihar.

The Detailed Project Report (DPR) of Kosi-Mechi intra-State link project was prepared by the National Water Development Agency (NWDA) and forwarded to the Government of Bihar in March, 2014. All necessary clearances have been obtained. The updation of DPR of the Kosi-Mechi intra-State link project was also completed by the NWDA in December, 2022 and the project was subsequently accepted by the Advisory Committee of Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (DoWR, RD & GR) in March, 2024 with an estimated cost of ₹6,282.32 crores at 2022-23 price level.

In March, 2025, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved the inclusion of Kosi-Mechi intra-State Link Project under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana-Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (PMKSY-AIBP) with Central assistance of ₹ 3,652.56 crore to the State of Bihar for implementation of this project.

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