

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1924

ANSWERED ON 31.07.2025

IMPACT OF KEN BETWA RIVER LINK PROJECT

1924. SHRI SASIKANTH SENTHIL

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any environmental impact assessments, including the assessment of deforestation in Panna Tiger Reserve and its surrounding areas, for the Ken-Betwa River Link Project and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to mitigate the loss of forest cover and ensure the protection of wildlife corridors during the execution of the said project;
- (c) the number of families that have been or are expected to be displaced due to the project and the details of the rehabilitation and resettlement measures undertaken/proposed to be undertaken; and
- (d) whether inter-state water sharing issues related to the Ken-Betwa River Link Project have been resolved between the participating States and if so, the details thereof along with the current status of such agreements?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

- (a) Under the Ken-Betwa Link Project (KBLP), the Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) study has been done for the project. As per EIA, around 6017 hectares of forest area in and around Panna Tiger Reserve (PTR), Madhya Pradesh has been identified to be affected due to submergence and other project logistic usage .
- (b) An Integrated Landscape Management Plan (ILMP) has been prepared, by the Wildlife Institute of India (WII), to improve habitat quality, maintain critical wildlife corridors linking adjacent Protected Areas (PAs), and enable the holistic protection and management of flagship species - including tigers, vultures, and gharials – as well as promote biodiversity conservation within PTR and its surrounding ecological sensitive zones in both States as well as mitigation measures for the loss of forest cover and to ensure the protection of wildlife .To ensure systematic and time-bound implementation of the ILMP, a Greater Panna Landscape Council (GPLC) is constituted under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, Government of Madhya Pradesh.
- (c) For construction of Daudhan Dam, land acquisition is taken up by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh under Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (RFCTLAR Act, 2013). At the time of Section 11 Notification, approximately 7193 families were estimated to be project affected. Government of Madhya Pradesh has approved a special Rehabilitation & Resettlement package.
- (d) Inter-State water sharing issues related to the KBLP have been resolved between the participating States through the Tripartite Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) signed on 22.03.2024. MoA may be accessed at URL: <https://nwda.gov.in/upload/uploadfiles/files/Tripartite%20MoA%20of%20KBLP.pdf>
