

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4825

ANSWERED ON 21.08.2025

KATHAN MEDIUM IRRIGATION PROJECT

†4825. SHRI RAHUL SINGH LODHI:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that under the Bada Malhara Legislative Assembly of Damoh Lok Sabha Constituency, a medium irrigation project on the Kathen river was approved about five years ago for which an agreement was signed in the year 2023 but the construction work has not started till date and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the reasons for not starting the construction work;
- (c) the time by which the construction work of the said irrigation project would be commenced; and
- (d) whether the Government would consider taking action against the officers and construction agency responsible for the delay in starting the said construction work and if so, the time by which it is likely to be done?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) to (d) Water being a State subject, it is for the State Government concerned to plan, execute, operate and manage irrigation projects. Role of Government of India is to provide technical support and partial financial assistance for identified projects under the ongoing schemes.

The State Government of Madhya Pradesh has informed that Administrative Approval for a major irrigation project on river Kathan under Bada Malhara Legislative Assembly of Damoh Lok Sabha Constituency has been accorded by Government of Madhya Pradesh in September, 2020. Agreement for construction of this project has been signed on 05.04.2023.

The State Government of Madhya Pradesh has further informed that the construction work could not start due to non-availability of statutory clearances, namely forest clearance and environmental clearance. Further, geotechnical investigation at project site has revealed poor rock condition in proposed spillway foundation area, which may require shifting of spillway location in consultation with Geological Survey of India.

The construction work of the said irrigation project is scheduled after completion of the statutory clearances and finalisation of spillway location/foundation treatment.
