

The Times of India- 09- December-2021

Cabinet OKs funds for ₹44,600cr Ken-Betwa river-linking project

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The Cabinet on Wednesday approved funding and implementation of the Ken-Betwa interlinking of rivers (ILR) project which aims to benefit water-starved Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh through creation of irrigation, hydro-power and drinking water facilities. The project, costing over Rs 44,600 crore, will be completed in eight years.

A Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV)-called Ken-Betwa Link Project Authority - will be set up for implementation of the project, involving transfer of water from the Ken river to Betwa river through construction of Daudhan Dam and a canal linking the two rivers, Lower Orr Project, Kotha Barrage and Bina Complex Multipurpose Project.

"The ILR Project will provide an annual irrigation of 10.62 lakh hectares, drinking water supply to a population of about 62 lakh and also generate 103 MW of hydro-power and 27 MW solar power...The project will be of immense benefit to the water-starved Bundelkhand region, spread across the states of MP and UP. It will provide enormous benefits to the districts of Panna, Tikamgarh, Chhatarpur, Sagar, Damoh, Datia, Vidisha, Shivpuri and Raisen of MP and

The project, which aims to benefit water-starved Bundelkhand region of UP and MP through creation of irrigation, hydro-power and drinking water facilities, is to be completed in 8 years

Banda, Mahoba, Jhansi & Lalitpur of UP," said an official statement.

The government claimed that the project also comprehensively provides for environment management and safeguards. "For this purpose, a comprehensive landscape management plan is under finalization by the Wildlife Institute of India," said the statement.

The Cabinet's decision followed a tripartite agreement signed by the ministry of 'Jal Shakti' (water resources), and the governments of UP and MP on March 22 to implement the first major centrally-driven river inter-linking project in the country.

"This agreement heralds the beginning of inter-state cooperation to implement the vision of Atal Bihari Vajpayee to carry water from areas that have surpluses to drought-prone and water-deficit areas, through the interlinking of rivers," it said.

Deccan Herald- 09- December-2021

Centre okays Ken-Betwa river-linking project

AJITH ATHRADY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday approved the long-pending Ken-Betwa interlinking of rivers project.

The first major centrally-driven river interlinking project in the country will cost Rs 44,605 crore and be completed in eight years.

The Ken-Betwa Link Project Authority (KBLPA), a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), will be set up to implement the proj-

ect, the Union Jal Shakti Ministry statement said.

The project shall provide irrigation to 10.62 lakh hectares in the perennially drought-prone area and water-starved regions in Chhatarpur, Panna and Tikamgarh of Madhya Pradesh and Banda, Mahoba and Jhansi of Uttar Pradesh and drinking water supply to about 62 lakh people. It will also generate 103 MW hydropower and 27 MW solar power," the statement added.

The project involves the transfer of water from the Ken to the Betwa River through

the construction of the Daudhan Dam and a canal linking the two rivers, the Lower Orr Project, Kotha Barrage and Bina Complex Multipurpose Project.

"The project will be of immense benefit to the water-starved Bundelkhand region, spread across the states of MP and UP. It will provide enormous benefits to the districts of Panna, Tikamgarh, Chhatarpur, Sagar, Damoh, Datia, Vidisha, Shivpuri and Raisen of Madhya Pradesh and Banda, Mahoba, Jhansi and Lalitpur of Uttar Pradesh," statement said.

Housing scheme extended till 2024

The Centre on Wednesday gave a nod to the continuation of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Gramin (PMAY-G) for another three years. The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the proposal for the continuation of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Gramin beyond March 2021.

Hindustan Times- 09- December-2021

Cabinet clears Ken-Betwa river linking project

HT Correspondent

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NEW DELHI: The Union Cabinet led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday approved the interlinking of the Ken and Betwa rivers at a cost of ₹44,605 crore, which will be completed in eight years.

A massive infrastructure project, the linking of the two rivers will bring water to the perennially drought-hit and impoverished Bundelkhand region, spread across the states of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar

Pradesh. The Cabinet approved a special purpose vehicle called the Ken-Betwa Link Project Authority to be set up to implement the project, which will generate 103 MW of hydro power as well as 27 MW solar energy, an official statement said.

The Ken-Betwa project involves building a dam on river Ken, a major river of the Bundelkhand region, with a 221-km canal to transfer "surplus" water to the Betwa basin. It was first mooted during the tenure of former prime minis-

ter Atal Behari Vajpayee.

This project will provide water to the districts of Panna, Tikamgarh, Chhatarpur, Sagar, Damoh, Datia, Vidisha, Shivpuri and Raisen in Madhya Pradesh, besides Banda, Mahoba, Jhansi and Lalitpur in Uttar Pradesh.

The Madhya Pradesh government has approved mandatory alternative land to compensate habitat loss in swathes of the Panna Tiger Reserve due to the river-linking project.

According to the statement,

this project involves transfer of water from the Ken to the Betwa through the construction of the Daudhan Dam and a canal linking the two rivers. The canal will provide drinking water to an estimated 6.2 million people, according to the project's plan and bring 10.62 lakh hectare under annual irrigation.

Madhya Pradesh chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said: "This project will prove to be a boon for Bundelkhand. It will bring prosperity in Bundelkhand."

Hindustan Times- 09- December-2021

Key decisions cleared

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday extended the nationwide rural housing scheme, and also gave its approval to the Ken-Betwa river linking project

The Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana - Gramin (PMAY-G), launched in 2016, is the flagship national programme to provide financial assistance for building houses in rural regions

March 2024 Extended deadline to achieve the objective of 'housing for all' in rural areas

16.5mn 'Pucca' houses built till Nov 29, according to Union information and broadcasting minister Anurag Thakur

The Ken-Betwa project will bring water to the perennially drought-hit Bundelkhand region, spread across states of Madhya Pradesh and UP

₹44,605 cr Project cost **8 years** Completion time

The project involves building a dam on river Ken, a major river of the Bundelkhand region, with a 221km canal to transfer "surplus" water to the Betwa basin.

"This project...will change the lives of people of Bundelkhand."
— SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN, MP CM

The Hindu- 09- December-2021

WRD to continue water release from reservoirs till end of monsoon



Managing storage: The combined storage of the reservoirs, including Poondi, stands at 10,582 million cubic feet (mcft) against their capacity of 11,757 mcft. •FILE PHOTO

Kosasthalaiyar water to be diverted to flush polluted stretch of the Cooum

K. LAKSHMI
CHENNAI

The Water Resources Department plans to continue water release from major city reservoirs till the end of the northeast monsoon.

Although there has not been significant rain in the past few days, the reservoirs continue to get inflow from catchment areas upstream. The officials said the storage of the five reservoirs that contribute a large share to drinking water supply is be-

ing maintained at a considerable level this month. The combined storage of the reservoirs, including Poondi, stood at 10,582 million cubic feet (mcft) against their capacity of 11,757 mcft.

"We have to build up storage of the reservoirs to nearly 90% of their capacity. It was decided to have the floodgates open till the end of monsoon as more rain spells may occur. A minimum 100 cusecs of water is being discharged from Red

Hills and Chembarambakkam lakes. This would have residents downstream on alert as water release may go up during rain," said an official.

This monsoon, the department was able to manage resources and build storage due to measured operation of the reservoirs during heavy inflow. Decision on water discharge was taken based on the forecast of the India Meteorological Department and the Central Water Commission.

"We released a maximum of 3,000 cusecs into Adyar

river from Chembarambakkam reservoir. Flash floods were avoided. Kosasthalaiyar river carried more floodwater as it received heavy inflow consistently for many days," the official said.

On Wednesday, about 1,940 cusecs was released from Poondi reservoir as it continued to get an inflow of over 2,600 cusecs. The department is maintaining water level at 34.53 feet against its full level of 35 feet. Once the rain recedes, storage in other reservoirs like Chembarambakkam would be stepped up.

Water is being diverted from Poondi reservoir to other waterbodies through the link canal. For the second time in a month, the department is diverting floodwater from the Kosasthalaiyar to flush the polluted stretch of the Cooum.

Water flowing in the link canal is routed to the Cooum near Aranyal in Tiruvallur district. The river is already getting 700 cusecs from tanks upstream and another 300 cusecs of water is added from the link canal. The continuous flow would help clean up the river.

The Hindu- 09- December-2021

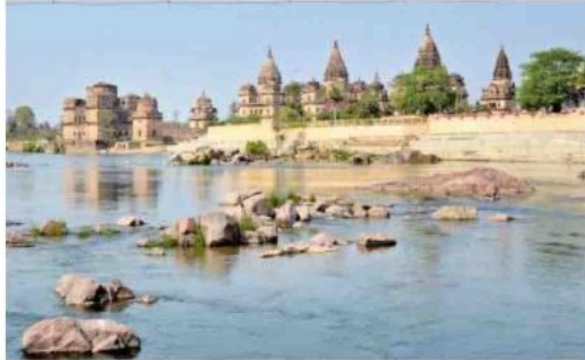
Cabinet nod for Ken-Betwa link project

Water-starved districts of U.P. and M.P. to benefit from ₹44,605 cr. scheme: Govt.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved the funding and implementation of the Ken-Betwa river inter-linking project at a cost of ₹44,605 crore at the 2020-21 price level. The Centre would fund ₹39,317 crore for the project, with ₹36,290 crore as a grant and ₹3,027 crore as a loan.

The project involves transferring of water from the Ken river to the Betwa river through the construction of Daudhan dam and a canal linking the two rivers, the Lower Orr Project, Kotha Barrage and the Bina Complex Multipurpose Project. The project is slated to irrigate 10.62 lakh hectares annually, provide drinking water supply to 62 lakh people and generate 103 MW of hydropower and 27 MW of so-



Betwa river flowing through Orchha in Madhya Pradesh. Plan is to complete the linking of rivers in eight years. ■ FILE PHOTO

lar power. The project is proposed to be ready in eight years.

“The project will be of immense benefit to the water-starved Bundelkhand region, spread across Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. This project will provide enormous benefits to the districts of Panna, Tikamgarh,

Chhatarpur, Sagar, Damoh, Datia, Vidisha, Shivpuri and Raisen of Madhya Pradesh and Banda, Mahoba, Jhansi and Lalitpur of Uttar Pradesh,” a statement noted.

“The project is expected to boost socio-economic prosperity in the backward Bundelkhand region on account of increased agricultu-

ral activities and employment generation. It would also help in arresting distress migration from this region,” it said.

Many hurdles

Several obstacles have dogged the project. For one, the project will partly submerge the Panna Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh and affect the habitat of vultures and jackals. After years of protests, it was finally cleared by the apex wildlife regulator, the National Board for Wildlife, in 2016.

Then Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh could not agree on how water would be shared, particularly in the non-monsoonal months. They reached an agreement in March. The original project was conceived in two distinct phases but now they are learnt to be combined.

Morning Standard- 09- December-2021

Cabinet okays river-linking; to benefit parched Bundelkhand

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

STAYING the course to give the BJP a poll booster ahead of the assembly elections in Uttar Pradesh, the Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved the interlinking of Ken and Betwa rivers. The project aims to address the issue of perennial water scarcity in the Bundelkhand region of UP and MP. The Cabinet also cleared the extension of the Pradhan Mantri Awaas (Grameen) Yojana till 2024.

Briefing the media on the decisions, I&B Minister Anurag Thakur said the central support to the project will be to the tune of ₹39,317 crore — ₹36,290 crore as grant as a loan of ₹3,027 crore — out of the total cost of ₹44,605 crore.

Water from Ken will be transferred to Betwa river through Daudhan Dam, which will be built as part of the project. Besides, a canal will also link the two rivers. "The project will provide an annual irrigation of 10.62 lakh hectare, drinking water supply to a population of about 62 lakh and also generate 103 MW hydropower and 27 MW solar power. The project is proposed to be implemented in eight years," said Thakur.

The project will pave the way for more interlinking of river projects in India and "showcase to the world our ingenuity and vision, a statement said.

The Madhya Pradesh districts of Panna, Tikamgarh, Chhatarpur, Sagar, Damoh, Datia, Vidisha, Shivpuri and Raisen will benefit from the project, while the beneficiary districts in UP will be Banda, Mahoba, Jhansi and Lalitpur.

The Indian Express- 09- December-2021

Cabinet extends PMAY-Rural plan till March 2024, nod to Ken-Betwa river inter-linking

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 8

THE CABINET Wednesday approved the extension of the Centre's flagship housing-for-all scheme, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G), beyond March 2021 till March 2024 to achieve the target of constructing 2.95 crore houses.

Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur said financial assistance would be provided for the construction of the 155.75 lakh houses remaining as on March, 31, 2021.

"The continuation of scheme till March, 2024 ensures the remaining 155.75 lakh households within overall target of 2.95 crore houses under PMAY-G will be provided assistance for construction of pucca houses with basic amenities to achieve the objective of 'Housing for All' in rural areas," the Cabinet said.

Till November 29, 2021 a total 1.65 crore PMAY-G houses have been constructed of the total target of 2.95 crore, it said. "It is estimated that 2.02 crore houses, which is almost equal to SECC 2011 database based Permanent Wait List, will be completed by the deadline of August 15, 2022. Therefore, to achieve the target of 2.95 crore houses, the scheme needs to be continued till March, 2024," it added.

The Cabinet also approved the funding and implementation of Ken-Betwa river linking project which is estimated to cost Rs 44,605 crore. The Cabinet approved central support of Rs 39,317 crore for the project, covering grant of Rs 36,290 crore and loan of Rs 3,027 crore.

"The Project will be of immense benefit to the water starved Bundelkhand region, spread across the states of MP and UP. This project will provide enormous benefits to the districts of Panna, Tikamgarh, Chhatarpur, Sagar, Damoh, Datia, Vidisha, Shivpuri and Raisen of Madhya Pradesh and Banda, Mahoba, Jhansi & Lalitpur of UP," the Cabinet said.

Haribhoomi- 09- December-2021

केन-बेतवा लिंक प्रोजेक्ट 8 साल में पूरा होगा

केंद्रीय मंत्री अनुराग ठाकुर ने बताया कि कैबिनेट बैठक में केन-बेतवा लिंक प्रोजेक्ट को मंजूरी दी है। केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने 44,605 करोड़ रुपये की लागत से बनने वाले केन-बेतवा नदियों को जोड़ने के प्रोजेक्ट को मंजूरी दी है। यह राष्ट्रीय परियोजना होगी और इसमें केंद्र सरकार का कुल योगदान 90 फीसदी होगा। यह

प्रोजेक्ट 8 वर्षों में पूरा किया जाएगा। केंद्रीय मंत्री अनुराग ठाकुर ने बताया कि प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की अध्यक्षता में हुई केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल की बैठक में इस आशय के प्रस्ताव को मंजूरी दी गई जिससे उत्तर प्रदेश और मध्य प्रदेश में बुंदेलखंड इलाकों के लोगों को पेयजल, कृषि कार्यों के लिए सिंचाई ►► शेष पेज 10 पर

केन-बेतवा लिंक...

एवं अन्य लाभ प्राप्त होंगे। उन्होंने बताया कि इस परियोजना से 103 मेगावाट पनबिजली और 27 मेगावाट सौर ऊर्जा सृजित होगा।

विशेष उद्देश्यीय कंपनी को गठित किया जाएगा: केन-बेतवा नदी जोड़ी परियोजना को लागू करने के लिए विशेष उद्देश्यीय कंपनी को गठित किया जाएगा जिसे केन-बेतवा नदी जोड़ी परियोजना प्राधिकार (केबीएलपीए) कहा जाएगा। बयान के अनुसार, केन-बेतवा लिंक परियोजना की कुल लागत 44,605 करोड़ रुपये रहने का अनुमान है, जो 2020-21 की कीमतों के आधार पर है। इसमें कहा गया है कि केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने परियोजना के लिए केंद्रीय समर्थन के रूप में 39,317 करोड़ रुपये, सहायक अनुदान के रूप में 36,290 करोड़ रुपये और ऋण के रूप में 3,027 करोड़ रुपये की धनराशि को मंजूर किया है।

Hindustan- 09- December-2021

केन-बेतवा नदी जोड़ने की परियोजना मंजूर

कैबिनेट फैसले

नई दिल्ली | विशेष संवाददाता

केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने बुधवार को केन और बेतवा नदी को आपस में जोड़ने संबंधी परियोजना को मंजूरी प्रदान कर दी। इस पर 44 हजार 605 करोड़ रुपये की लागत आएगी। परियोजना को आठ सालों में पूरा किया जाएगा।

केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल की बैठक के बाद सूचना प्रसारण मंत्री अनुराग ठाकुर ने संवाददाताओं को बताया कि प्रधानमंत्री नरेद्र मोदी की अध्यक्षता में हुई मंत्रिमंडल की बैठक में इसे मंजूरी दी गई है। इससे यूपी और मध्य प्रदेश के बुंदेलखंड इलाकों में पेयजल, कृषि कार्यों के लिए सिंचाई एवं अन्य लाभ प्राप्त होंगे। इससे 103 मेगावाट पनबिजली और 27 मेगावाट सौर ऊर्जा सृजित होगी।

परियोजना लागू करने के लिए कंपनी का होगा गठन: परियोजना को

पहली नदी जोड़ो परियोजना

केन-बेतवा देश की पहली नदी जोड़ो परियोजना है। पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी के समय से इस पर काम हो रहा है। इससे मध्य प्रदेश में छतरपुर, पन्ना, टीकमगढ़, सागर, दमोह, दतिया, विदिशा, शिवपुरी जिलों को पानी मिलेगा, वहीं यूपी के बांदा, महोबा, झांसी और ललितपुर जिलों को राहत मिलेगी। परियोजना के तहत केन नदी से बेतवा नदी में पानी भेजा जाएगा। इसके लिए पन्ना जिले में दौधन बांध का निर्माण किया जाएगा।

लेकर सरकार के बयान में कहा गया है कि केन-बेतवा नदी जोड़ो परियोजना को लागू करने के लिए विशेष उद्देश्यीय कंपनी को गठित किया जाएगा, जिसे केन-बेतवा नदी जोड़ो परियोजना प्राधिकार कहा जाएगा। परियोजना के तहत 10.62 लाख हेक्टेयर क्षेत्र में सालभर सिंचाई हो सकेगी। 62 लाख लोगों को पेयजल आपूर्ति होगी।

Pioneer- 09- December-2021

केन एवं बेतवा नदियों को आपस में जोड़ने की परियोजना को मंजूरी

भाषा। नई दिल्ली

केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने केन एवं बेतवा नदी को आपस में जोड़ने संबंधी परियोजना को बुधवार को मंजूरी प्रदान कर दी जिस पर 44,605 करोड़ रुपए की लागत आएगी और इसे आठ वर्षों में पूरा किया जाएगा। बैठक के बाद सूचना प्रसारण मंत्री अनुराग ठाकुर ने संवाददाताओं को यह जानकारी दी।

उन्होंने बताया कि प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की अध्यक्षता में हुई केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल की बैठक में इस आशय के प्रस्ताव को मंजूरी दी गई जिससे उत्तर प्रदेश और मध्य प्रदेश में बुंदेलखंड इलाकों के लोगों को पेयजल, कृषि कार्यों के लिए सिंचाई एवं अन्य लाभ प्राप्त होंगे। उन्होंने बताया कि इस परियोजना से 103 मेगावाट पनबिजली और 27 मेगावाट सौर ऊर्जा सृजित होगा। एक सरकारी बयान के अनुसार, केन-बेतवा नदी जोड़ने परियोजना को लागू करने के लिए विशेष उद्देश्य कंपनी को गठित किया जाएगा जिसे

● इससे उप्र और मप्र में बुंदेलखंड क्षेत्र के लोगों को मिलेगा लाभ

केन बेतवा नदी जोड़ने परियोजना प्राधिकार (केबीएलपीए) कहा जाएगा। बयान के अनुसार, केन-बेतवा लिंक परियोजना की कुल लागत 44,605 करोड़ रुपए रहने का अनुमान है, जो 2020-21 की कीमतों के आधार पर है। इसमें कहा गया है कि केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने परियोजना के लिए केंद्रीय समर्थन के रूप में 39,317 करोड़ रुपए, सहायक अनुदान के रूप में 36,290 करोड़ रुपए और ऋण के रूप में 3,027 करोड़ रुपए की धनराशि को मंजूर किया है।

इस परियोजना के तहत 10.62 लाख हेक्टेयर क्षेत्र में सालभर सिंचाई हो सकेगी तथा 62 लाख लोगों को पेयजल की आपूर्ति संभव होगी। इसमें भूजल रिचार्ज से जुड़े प्रावधान भी हैं। बयान के अनुसार, इसके तहत

प्रधानमंत्री आवास योजना ग्रामीण मार्च 2024 तक बढ़ी

नई दिल्ली। केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने प्रधानमंत्री आवास योजना ग्रामीण को जारी रखने को बुधवार को मंजूरी दे दी जिसके तहत इसे मार्च 2021 से मार्च 2024 तक बढ़ाने की बात कही गई है। बैठक के बाद सूचना प्रसारण मंत्री अनुराग ठाकुर ने संवाददाताओं को यह जानकारी देते हुए कहा कि प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की अध्यक्षता में इस आशय के प्रस्ताव को मंजूरी दी गई जिसके तहत ग्रामीण इलाकों में सभी को आवास सुनिश्चित किया जा सकेगा। उन्होंने बताया कि वर्ष 2016 में ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में सभी को आवास के संबंध में आकलन किया गया था (शेष पेज 9)

मध्य प्रदेश में 8.11 लाख हेक्टेयर तथा उत्तर प्रदेश में 2.11 लाख हेक्टेयर भूमि सिंचित (शेष पेज 9)