

F. No. 21011/01/2014-LRD
Government of India
Ministry of Rural Development
Department of Land Resources

30006, Kartavya Bhvan 3,
New Delhi-11011
Dated 21st October 2025

To,

All Members of the National Monitoring Committee for Rehabilitation and Resettlement

(As per list)

Subject: Minutes of the 12th Meeting of the National Monitoring Committee (NMC) held under the Chairmanship of Secretary (LR) on 30.09.2025 - reg.

Sir/Madam,

The undersigned is directed to enclose herewith the Minutes of the 12th Meeting of the National Monitoring Committee (NMC) held under the Chairmanship of Secretary (LR) on 30.09.2025 at 04.00 PM in the Conference Room No. 32000D of DoLR through hybrid mode for further necessary action.

Yours faithfully,



(Sarvadanand Barnwal)

Director (LR)

Copy to:

1. PSO to Secretary, DoLR
2. Sr. PPS to AS (LR), DoLR
3. PPS to JS (LR), DoLR

Minutes of the 12th Meeting of National Monitoring Committee for Rehabilitation and Resettlement

The 12th meeting of the National Monitoring Committee (NMC) for Rehabilitation & Resettlement was held under the Chairmanship of Secretary (LR) on 30.09.2025 at 04.00 PM in the Committee Room 32000D, Kartavya Bhawan 3, New Delhi. The meeting was conducted in hybrid mode. The list of participants is at Annexure.

2. At the outset, Additional Secretary (LR) welcomed the Chairman, Members of the committee, and all participants to the meeting. Director (LR) provided a brief introduction of the history of NMC meetings, agendas of the previous meeting and action points that emerged from the last meeting. He introduced the agenda of the 12th meeting of NMC on R&R. With the permission of the Chair, agenda wise, power-point presentation was made and discussions held as under:

3. Agenda Item No. 1: Confirmation of the Action Taken on the Minutes of the NMC meeting held on 30.10.2024.

3.1 The committee was informed that the minutes of the meeting held on 30.10.2024 were circulated to all members/ participants on 8th November 2024 and no comments/revision/modifications have been received from any of the members/participants.

3.2 The Committee unanimously confirmed the minutes of the last meeting.

4. Agenda Item 2: Action Taken Report/ Status Update on the Action Points on Polavaram Irrigation Project and Ken - Betwa River Linking Project arising from the 11th Meeting of the NMC held on 30.10.2024.

Polavaram Irrigation Project

4.1 The Commissioner (R&R), Government of Andhra Pradesh, presented a detailed update on the Polavaram Irrigation Project. Briefly, the presentation covered the following points:

- i. Phase 1 (water level up to 41.15m) is under progress. It involves 38,060 PDFs across 90 villages (172 habitations), with 38 habitations shifted and 134 pending. For R&R, 75 colonies were to be constructed out of which 26 have been completed whereas others are in process. Accordingly, 14,371 PDFs have been relocated (12,797 physically shifted, 1,574 self-constructed). The balance 23,689 PDFs have to be shifted.

- ii. Since the last meeting (October 30, 2024), 3,325 acres of land has been acquired. During the period R&R entitlement for 5291 PDFs have been completed and additional 1574 PDFs have been shifted.
- iii. There are challenges in R&R due to refusal of PDFs to provide consent to the identified land in Gangavaram and Addateegala Mandals. In Eluru District, despite land finalization the process is stalled due to pending PESA Committee approval and lack of PDFs' consent.
- iv. For phase 1, the action plan targets land acquisition completion by March 2026 and full R&R by March 2027. In respect of project total 12,294 (2575 in ASR, 9,719 in Elluru) grievances have been received, with 11,966 disposed of. It was informed that these primarily relate to PDF inclusion, name changes, plot allotments, and payments.

Ken-Betwa Link Project

4.2. ACEO (Environment, Land Acquisition, and R&R), KBLPA, presented the progress status report of Ken-Betwa Link Project. The presentation covered the following points:

i. The project involves 9,000 ha of submergence of land. In the 22 affected villages, 4,858 project affected families are identified (1,058 in Panna, 3,800 in Chhatarpur). Most PDFs opted for a special R&R package (one-time cash or plots), with 3,080 in Chhatarpur and 1058 in Panna. 195 in Chhatarpur opted for plots, and 522 are undecided. Two relocation sites (near Bhaiskhar, Kadwara district, and Raipura) are identified for 1,400 plots.

ii. R&R package awards cover 3,800 PAFs in Chhatarpur (₹385 crore, ₹136.13 crore disbursed) and 1,080 in Panna (₹132.25 crore, ₹132 crore disbursed). For acquisition of private land, award of Rs. 360.66 crore was to be made out of which Rs.308.6 crore has been disbursed. For disbursement of R&R package, award of Rs.268.13 crores was issued out of Rs.517.25 crore.

iii. The grievances received and resolved on CM Helpline are 684 in Panna and 949 in Chhatarpur. A grievance redressal camp is scheduled from 10th September to 10th October, 2025, in Chhatarpur.

4.3 NITI Aayog representative mentioned about coordination issues in land acquisition, and suggested inviting district authorities or land acquisition commissioners as special invitees.

5. Agenda Item 3: Visit reports on Polavaram Irrigation Project and Ken -

Betwa River Linking Project (Presentation by Sh. Mudit Kumar Singh, Expert member, NMC)

5.1 Shri Mudit Kumar Singh, expert member, made a presentation on his visit reports on Polavaram and Ken-Betwa projects. The presentation covered the following points:

- i. For Polavaram, visit covered Yellogu Milli Mandal and Ganaopuram, including the dam site and powerhouse. It was mentioned that timeline of March 2027 may be difficult to achieve due to increase in PAFs from 20,000 to 38,060 post-2022 floods. Other issues mentioned were about revised cost estimate, improvement in housing quality to reduce maintenance expenditure, undulating land in schools and Anganwadis, crop damage at relocation sites, poorly maintained Primary Health Centres (PHCs), etc. Suggestions made in the report included construction of amenities along with R&R infrastructure, proper monitoring of R&R infrastructures, post-construction maintenance clauses, sensitization through Gram Panchayats and Anganwadi workers, etc.
- ii. For Ken-Betwa, visit covered seven villages and the dam site. Issues The presentation mentioned regarding delay in disbursement of R&R Package, non-inclusion of newly turned adults in special package, inadequate compensation for houses/wells/trees, unaddressed Forest Rights Act (FRA) claims, and improper demarcation of submerged area in one village, etc. Suggestions made included expediting disbursements, including newly turned adults in R&R packages, proper marking of Full Reservoir Levels for assessment of compensation, addressing FRA/rejected claims, conducting outreach programme to enhance community awareness for better utilization of R&R package, improving coordination among water resources, revenue, and forest officials, and redressal of public grievance made on portal, etc.

6. Agenda Item 4: Monitoring of other National Projects involving land acquisition

6.1 M/o Jal Shakti informed the committee that there are seven national projects. Out of them, the committee is already monitoring two projects viz., Polavaram and Ken-Betwa. The Saryu Nahar Pariyojna has been completed and the Shahpur Kandi Dam is in advanced stages of completion. The other three ongoing projects are Gosikhurd (Maharashtra), Renukaji (Himachal Pradesh), and Lakhwar (Uttarakhand). The details of these projects are as follows:-

- i. Renukaji, on the Giri River, aims to provide drinking water to Delhi and neighbouring states during lean seasons. It was declared as a national project

in 2008 and its foundation stone was laid in December 2021. 947 ha out of 954 ha of private land has been acquired. 695 ha of forest land and 95 ha of government land will be transferred after forest clearance. It affects 20 panchayats (41 villages), with 2,462 PAFs (6,669 persons), of which 1,362 families have been notified, and 1,100 are under verification, alongside 95 houseless and 114 landless families.

- ii. Lakhwar, a multipurpose project for drinking water, power, and irrigation, started in 1987, was halted due to funding issues, declared as National Project in 2008, and resumed in December 2021. Of 927 ha required, 873 ha (768 ha forest, 105 ha private) is acquired, with 1,831 PAFs identified (1,181 notified).
- iii. Gosikhurd irrigation project involves a 11 km dam on the Wain Ganga River, with most land acquired (355 ha forest and 272 ha private pending). It affects 85 villages (51 in Nagpur, 34 in Bhandara), with 82 rehabilitated and 12,638 of 14,984 PDFs resettled.

6.2. After detailed discussions, it was decided that the Committee will take presentation on status of Rehabilitation and Resettlement from Gosikhurd, Renukaji, and Lakhwar project authorities in the next meeting of NMC.

7. The Committee decided following Action Points:

- i. The Polavaram Project Authorities will pursue and complete the Resettlement and Rehabilitation measures within the timelines indicated during the meeting (i.e. March 2027). Further progress on R&R measures should be updated in the next meeting of the National Monitoring Committee.
- ii. Ken-Betwa River Linking Project authorities will convene early the first meeting of their R&R Monitoring Committee (chaired by Secretary, DoLR).
- iii. The Project Authorities of Polavaram and Ken-Betwa will examine the visit report of the Expert Member and take appropriate action. An Action Taken Report will be furnished to DoLR for placing it for consideration in the next meeting of the NMC.
- iv. The Ministry of Jal Shakti will invite the project authorities of Gosikhurd, Renukaji, and Lakhwar projects to make a presentation on the status of R&R implementation in the next meeting of the NMC.

8. The meeting ended with Vote of Thanks to the Chair, Members and all other participants.

List of Participants

Department of Land Resources

1. Shri Manoj Joshi, Secretary, Chairman.
2. Shri R. Anand, Additional Secretary
3. Shri Sanjay Kumar, Deputy Director General
4. Shri Sarvadanand Barnwal, Director
5. Ms. Kaushiki Mishra, Young Professional

Expert members

1. Shri Mudit Kumar Singh, retd. IFS, Ex PCCF Chandigarh
2. Shri B.K. Agarwal, former CS, HP & Former Secretary, Government of India

Central Ministries/Departments

1. Additional Director General, Directorate General Defence Estates
2. Joint Secretary, Department of Defence, Ministry of Defence
3. Shri Niraj Kumar, Joint Secretary & Legal Advisor, Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law & Justice
4. Shri Dinesh Mahur, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Mines
5. Sh. Yugal Kishore Joshi, Programme Director, NITI Aayog
6. Shri K B Singh, Inspector General of Forests, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
7. Dr. V. N. Kale, Additional Commissioner, Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
8. Mr. Deepak Chandra Bhatt, Senior Joint Commissioner (SPR), Ministry of Jal Shakti
9. Shri Vipul Ujwal, Director, Ministry of Panchayati Raj
10. Sh. Shaikh Amin Khan, Director, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
11. Shri A. Muralidharan, Deputy Advisor, NITI Aayog
12. Shri Anil Kumar, Deputy Secretary, Department of Commerce & Industry
13. Shri Vijay Rajak, DDG, Directorate General Defence Estates
14. Shri Kaushal Kumar, Deputy Commissioner (BM), Department of Water Resources, Ministry of Jal Shakti
15. Smt. Deepa Pande, Under Secretary (Lands), Ministry of Defence

Departments/State Governments

Andhra Pradesh

1. N. Prabhakara Reddy, Addl. CCLA-cum-Secretary, Government of Andhra Pradesh
2. Shri M. J. Upadhyay, Director (A&C), Polavaram Project Authority
3. Shri S. Ramasundar Reddy, Commissioner (Rehabilitation & Resettlement), Government of Andhra Pradesh
4. Shri Sattenapalli Sarala Vandanam, Special Collector, Polavaram Irrigation Project
5. Sri V. Abhishek, Project Administrator & Ex-Officio Joint Collector, Polavaram

Irrigation Project

6. Shri B. Alekya Vishnu Priya, Assistant Executive Engineer (AEE), Polavaram Project Authority

Madhya Pradesh

1. Shri R. P. S. Kanwar, Chief Engineer, Water Resources Department, Sagar, Madhya Pradesh
2. Shri Prashast Kumar Dixit, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), KBLPA
3. Shri Shiva Prakash, ACEO (Environment, Land Acquisition & R&R), KBLPA

Others

1. ACEO (Canal), KBLPA, Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh
