

F. No. 21011/01/2014-LRD (e-3003907)

Government of India  
Ministry of Rural Development  
Department of Land Resources

30006, Kartavya Bhvan 3,  
New Delhi-11011  
Dated 22<sup>nd</sup>, June, 2026

To,

All Members of the National Monitoring Committee for Rehabilitation and Resettlement

(As per list)

**Subject: Minutes of the 13th Meeting of the National Monitoring Committee (NMC) held under the Chairmanship of Secretary (LR) on 16.06.2026 - reg.**

Sir/Madam,

The undersigned is directed to enclose herewith the Minutes of the 13th Meeting of the National Monitoring Committee (NMC) held under the Chairmanship of Secretary (LR) on 16.06.2026 at 11:30 AM at Bhoomi Hall, Kartavya Bhawan -3, New Delhi in hybrid mode for further necessary action.

Yours faithfully,



(Sarvadanand Barnwal)

Director (LR)

Copy to:

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

**Minutes of the 13th Meeting of the National Monitoring Committee (NMC)  
for Rehabilitation and Resettlement**

The 13th meeting of the National Monitoring Committee (NMC) was convened under the Chairmanship of Secretary (LR) on 16.06.2026 at Bhoomi Hall, Kartavya Bhawan -3, New Delhi in hybrid mode. The List of Participants is at Annexure.

2. A brief discussion was held regarding the separate Rehabilitation & Resettlement (R&R) Monitoring Committee constituted for the Ken-Betwa Link Project. It was clarified that the National Monitoring Committee (NMC) is the statutory body mandated to review the implementation and progress of Rehabilitation & Resettlement (R&R) activities. Accordingly, in order to avoid duplication of oversight mechanisms, it was decided that the project shall continue to be monitored and reviewed by the NMC.

**3. Agenda items:**

**i. Agenda Item 1: Confirmation of Minutes of the 12th Meeting**

The minutes of the 12th Meeting of the NMC were presented for confirmation. No comments or objections were received from members. The minutes were confirmed by the committee.

**ii. Agenda Item 2: Review of R&R Status of Polavaram Irrigation Project (Andhra Pradesh)**

A detailed presentation was made by the Commissioner (R&R), Government of Andhra Pradesh, on the status of land acquisition and R&R for the Polavaram Project. The following key points were noted:

- A multi-purpose irrigation project on the Godavari River, involving a total of about 96,000 Project Affected Families (PAFs) across Phases I & II, with a total of approximately 38,000 PAFs in Phase I.
- R&R entitlements have been provided to around 22,015 families, while physical shifting has been completed for approximately 17,261 families. Land acquisition is at 94% completion.
- 16,520 houses have been completed out of the required 34,360. Construction is in progress, with the target for completing the remaining R&R activities for Phase I is November 2026, while Phase II activities are expected to be

completed by March-April 2027.

- The Challenges of the authorities is that land availability is limited, especially in tribal/scheduled areas. Issues include identifying land for land-to-land compensation, tribal/non-tribal land title conflicts, and LTR (Land Transfer Rules) restrictions.

The following were key deliberations:

- NMC Expert Sh. B. K. Agarwal raised the point that R&R cannot be considered complete merely on the basis of entitlement disbursal unless physical shifting of the families has also been completed.
- The Chairperson of the committee agreed and directed that R&R should only be considered complete when all components (monetary benefits, land assignment, physical infrastructure, and shifting) are fully delivered, including physical shifting. The Project Authority was directed to revise its reporting accordingly.
- The Chairperson questioned the revised timelines and the potential impact on the project's implementation schedule. The Commissioner confirmed that shifting is planned to be completed before the engineering department's completion target of May 2027.
- The Chair directed the project authorities to expedite the process and ensure that all necessary infrastructure (schools, hospitals, water supply, etc.) in the new colonies is and staffed functional before families are shifted. The Commissioner assured that this is now being strictly monitored.
- The committee requested more detailed data on grievances, specifically the number of cases accepted vs. rejected. The Commissioner confirmed this data will be shared in future reports.

The following Action Points emerged:

- The Commissioner, R&R, AP, to update the reporting format to show the minimum progress across all R&R components (benefits, housing, infrastructure, shifting) to reflect true completion status.
- The Action Taken Report by the Project Authority on the visit report of the NMC Expert (Sh. Mudit Kr. Singh) to be shared with the expert for comments.
- The Commissioner, R&R, AP, to provide detailed statistics on grievance redressal (disposed, accepted, rejected) in the next meeting.
- The Project Authority to ensure all amenities (schools, hospitals, etc.) are functional before declaring any family as "shifted."

### **iii. Agenda Item 3: Ken-Betwa Link Project (KBLPA), Madhya Pradesh**

The CEO of the Ken-Betwa Link Project Authority presented thean overview status of the project, a major inter-state river linking project covering MP and UP. The following were key deliberations:

- The project is a multi-purpose project with an estimated cost of ₹44,000 crores, a dam and a 216 km canal, requiring the acquisition of approximately 17,960 hectares of land.
- The State Government of Madhya Pradesh has announced a special R&R package of ₹12.5 lakh per hectare for the affected families. The project authority reported that 100% of affected families have opted for this package.
- A significant concern was raised by the Chairperson and Expert Member Sh. B.K. Agarwal whether this ₹12.5 lakh package covers all entitlements under Schedule II (land-for-land, fishing rights, etc.) and Schedule III (community infrastructure) of the RFCTLARR Act, or is it just for the land component. The Chairperson also questioned if the package includes infrastructure provisions.
- The DM Chhatarpur explained that the package is comprehensive and includes the monetized value of components. The Chairman then directed that a detailed comparative report be submitted mapping each component of Schedule II and Schedule III against the corresponding amount/provision in the Special Package. In this regard, for the non-financial entitlements, the details for monetization in the Special Package, if undertaken, also to be provided.
- The committee noted that the definition of Project Displaced Families (PDFs) vs PAF is not clear in the context of the link canal and needed categorization.

The following Action Points emerged:

- The State Government of Madhya Pradesh (Revenue Department) was requested to submit a detailed report comparing the special package (₹12.5 lakh) against all the prescribed entitlements under Schedule II and Schedule III of the LARR Act. This must show how each component is addressed (monetarily or physically).
- The state government was advised to look into anomalies flagged in the member's report, such as incomplete FTL (Full Tank Level) marking and partial compensation in villages.
- It was noted that the R&R package to some of affected families is yet to be

disbursed. The state government was asked to provide a report on the time gap between the sanction and actual disbursement of compensation and suggest a plan to expedite the process, including the payment of interest for delays.

**iv. Agenda Item 4: Action Taken Report on Expert Member Visit:** The Committee reviewed the observations made by the Expert Member, Sh. Mudit Kumar Singh, following his visit to the Polavaram and Ken-Betwa projects:

- For the Polavaram Project, observations included funding constraints, gaps in last-mile delivery of amenities, and the need for a stronger grievance redress mechanism. It was decided that the ATR by Polavaram Project Authority may be shared with the Expert Member for examination.
- For the Ken-Betwa Project, observations included delays in disbursement of compensation and R&R benefits, issues related to the inclusion of newly-turned adults in PAF lists, and improper demarcation of the submergence area. The State Government was directed to submit a detailed report on these issues.

**v. Agenda Item 5: Review of R&R Status — Projects (Gosikhurd, Renukaji, Lakwar)**

The committee noted the decision to monitor new projects that fall under the purview of the NMC (inter-state projects).

a. Gosikhurd Project (Maharashtra)

- In respect of Gosikhurd Project, Maharashtra it was noted that the project declared a National Project in 2009 and substantial part of the land was acquired under the old Act and a major part of the project is already complete.
- The committee felt that only the land acquired under the new LARR Act 2013 falls under its purview.
- The Ministry of Jal Shakti was requested to review the R&R components of this project and determine which aspects need NMC monitoring and, if any, to refer the matter to NMC for review at an appropriate stage.

b. Renukaji Dam Project (Himachal Pradesh)

- The project involves an inter-state storage dam on the Giri river. Land acquisition is mostly complete, with a small portion (6.7 hectares) pending.

The project authority of Renukaji dam project, Himachal Pradesh informed that no families have been physically displaced as yet and project completion target is 2032. Physical work (diversion tunnels) has commenced.

- It was noted that the Displaced Families (PDFs) are only 294, whereas the Project Affected Families (PAFs) are 2,462. The project authority of Renukaji dam project, Himachal Pradesh informed that no families have been physically displaced as yet and project completion target is 2032.
- The Chairperson directed to present a clear distinction between PAFs and PDFs in all reports.
- Subsequently, the Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoJS) was requested to conduct an internal review and refer the project to the NMC when R&R implementation reaches a stage requiring monitoring.
- Similarly, in case of Lakhwar Project, Uttarakhand it was informed that the project is still at its initial stage. It was decided that the Ministry of Jal Shakti to review the R&R implementation timelines of these projects internally and refer to NMC when the R&R activities are in a suitable phase

4. The Chairperson of the NMC, Secretary, DOLR, concluded the meeting with the following key points:

- The infrastructure development for "Viksit Bharat" is very crucial, it must be accompanied with ensuring fair treatment of Project Affected Families so that there is no delay caused to project implementation.
- All state governments must ensure full compliance with the provisions of the LARR Act 2013. Discretion, if any, should be used in favor of the affected families
- All concerned agencies to ensure that land acquisition and R&R processes are carried out in a time-bound manner to avoid project delays and additional financial burden due to interest payments on delayed compensation.

5. The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair.

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**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

**Department of Land Resources**

1. Shri. Narendra Bhooshan, Secretary - Chairman
2. Shri. P. Narahari, Joint Secretary
3. Shri. Sarvadanand Barnwal, Director
4. Shri. Mayank Paul, Section Officer
5. Ms. Shubhangi Agarwal, YP (Legal)
6. Ms. Kaushiki Mishra, YP (Legal)

**Expert members**

1. Shri Mudit Kr. Singh, IFS, Former PCCF & Head of Forest Force
2. Shri B.K. Agarwal, former CS, HP & Former Secretary, Government of India

**Central Ministries/Departments**

1. Shri. Mohd. Muqem, Joint Secretary & Legal Advisor, Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law and Justice
2. Shri. Kuldeep Kumar Singh, Senior Joint Commissioner (SPR-I), Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation (DoWR, RD & GR), Ministry of Jal Shakti
3. Ms. Avanti Verma, Senior Joint Commissioner, DoWR, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti
4. Shri. Sanjeev Vohra, Chief Executive Officer, PPA, DoWR, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti
5. Shri A. Muralidharan, Deputy Advisor, Water & Land Resources (WR&LR) and Drinking Water & Sanitation Verticals, NITI Aayog
6. Shri D.K. Solanki, Director, Ministry of Commerce and Industry
7. Shri Rishi Gangwar, Executive Director (L&A), Railway Board
8. Shri Avinash Gupta, Director, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)
9. Shri. Santosh Kumar, Director (Hydro), Ministry of Power
10. Shri. Shreyash Gune, Deputy Commissioner, DoWR, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti
11. Shri. Gausar Singhai, Deputy Commissioner, DoWR, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti
12. Shri Vikram Verma, Deputy Director, Ministry of Defence
13. Shri Vipin Patel, Deputy Adviser (PHE), CPHEEO, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

14. Shri Shambhu Nath Pal, Under Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs
15. Shri Ajay Kumar, Under Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj
16. Shri. Lokendra Mahavar, LA & R&R Specialist, Ken-Betwa Link Project Authority, Ministry of Jal Shakti
17. Smt. Neelima, Section Officer, Ministry of Panchayati Raj

**State Government**

1. Ms. Anubha Shrivastava, Secretary (Revenue), Government of Madhya Pradesh
2. Smt. P. Prasanthi, Commissioner (R&R), Water Resources Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada
3. Mr. Jitendra Turkhede, Executive Engineer, Gosikhurd Project, Water Resources Department, Maharashtra
4. Shri R.P. Singh, Chief Engineer, Datia, Madhya Pradesh
5. Chief Engineer, Gosikhurd Project, Water Resources Department, Maharashtra

**Project Authority**

1. Shri. P.K.Dixit, Chief Executive Officer, Ken-Betwa Link Project Authority
2. Sh. Ajay Kumar Singh, Managing Director (In-Charge) of UJVN Limited (UJVNL)
3. Shri. T. M. Tripathi, Additional Chief Executive Officer (Environment, LA & R&R), Ken-Betwa Link Project Authority
4. Shri. Sunil Kumar Thakur, General Manager, Renukaji Dam Project
5. Shri. Vivek Mittal, Executive Engineer, Ken-Betwa Link Project Authority
6. Dr. Shradha Bisht, Environment & Social Specialist, PMC-KBLPA
7. Mr. Jitendra Turkhede, Executive Engineer, Gosikhurd Project, Water Resources Department, Maharashtra

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