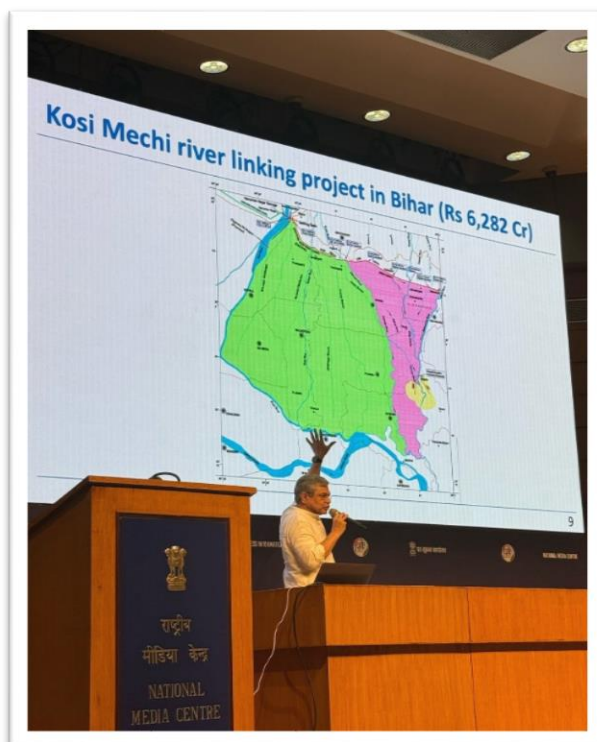
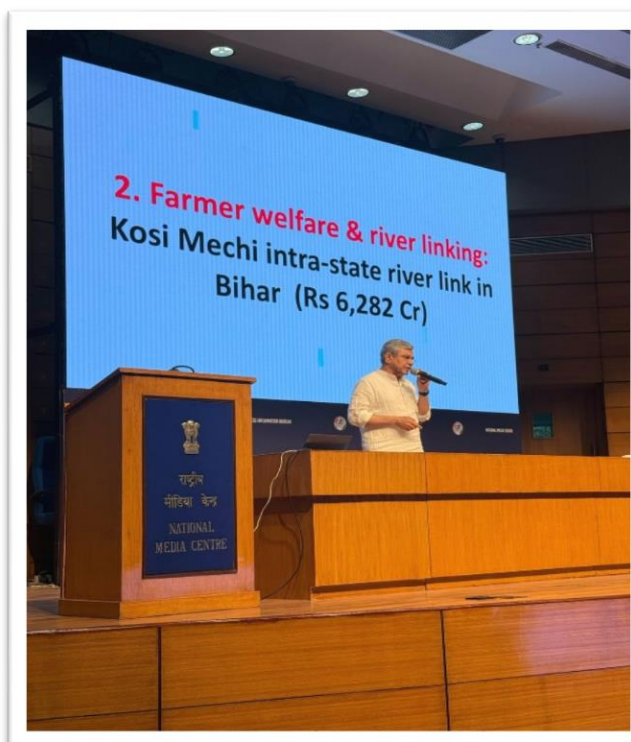


## **Cabinet approves inclusion of Kosi Mechi Intra-State Link Project of Bihar under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana- Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (PMKSY-AIBP)**

On 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2025, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has today approved inclusion of Kosi Mechi Intra-State Link Project of Bihar under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana - Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (PMKSY-AIBP) of Ministry of Jal Shakti.

The project has an estimated cost of Rs.6,282.32 crore, out of which Rs. 3,652.56 crore has been approved as central grant under PMKSY-AIBP, and the balance is to be borne by the State Government of Bihar. The project is targeted for completion by March, 2029.



The project envisages diversion of part of surplus water of Kosi river for extending irrigation to Mahananda basin lying in Bihar by way of remodeling of existing Eastern Kosi Main Canal (EKMC) and extending the EKMC beyond to river Mechi so that rivers Kosi and Mechi which flow through Bihar could be linked together within Bihar. The Link Project will provide 2.1 lakh hectares additional annual irrigation in Kharif season in Araria, Purnea, Kishanganj and Katihar districts of Bihar. The project has potential to divert/utilize about 2,050 million cubic meter of surplus water of Kosi through the proposed link canal. Further, after remodeling of existing EKMC, shortfall supply to 1.57 lakh hectare existing command of existing Eastern Kosi Main Canal shall be restored.