

UNIT-V: CASE STUDIES

5.1- EIA OF RIVER VALLEY PROJECTS



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Case Study

The Karnataka Power Corporation Limited constructed a dam in 1964 across the river near Linganamakki. It is reported to be one of the oldest hydroelectric power projects in our country. The dam is located at an altitude of 512 m. The reservoir capacity is ~152 Thousand Million Cubic feet. It receives water from the Chakra and Savahaklu reservoirs that are connected through Linganamakki by means of a canal. The construction of the Linganamakki dam resulted in submersion of a large area along with a decline in biodiversity in the area. The soil and aquatic environments were also threatened. So the construction of the dam caused impacts on the river ecosystem. Large dams and development of river valley projects cause significant environmental degradation. Cumulative Environmental Impact Assessment (CEIA) can help minimize the impacts of these projects. The following steps are important for any river valley project to be considered environmentally sensitive:

- A complete environmental impact assessment should be conducted before the proposed project is considered for clearance.
- Once the proposed project is considered viable and desirable with respect to the socio-economic and environmental grounds, preventive measures should be taken for the negative environmental impacts.
- When the project is commissioned, environmental impacts should be

monitored and action should be taken on the preventive measures to address the impacts.

