

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 18.11.2010
ANSWERED ON

INTERLINKING OF RIVERS AT FLOOD AFFECTED STATES .

1078

Shri Ishwarlal Shankarlal Jain

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether Government proposes to interlink rivers to deal with the problem of floods and droughts in the country;
- (b) if so, whether the rivers of such flood-affected States have been surveyed;
- (c) whether the construction of a dam on river Tapi in district Jalgaon in Maharashtra is still incomplete for want of funds;
- (d) if so, whether the State Government of Maharashtra has asked for any aid from the Central Government for this dam;
- (e) whether Government proposes to provide funds for completion of this dam or whether it proposes to construct this dam on its own; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES

(SHRI VINCENT H. PALA)

(a) & (b) The Ministry of Water Resources(MOWR) (erstwhile Ministry of Irrigation) formulated a National Perspective Plan(NPP) for Water Resources Development in 1980 envisaging inter-basin transfer of water from surplus basins to deficit basins/areas which comprises two components, namely, Himalayan Rivers Development Component and Peninsular Rivers Development Component. The National Water Development Agency (NWDA) was set up under the MOWR in 1982 for carrying out various technical studies to establish the feasibility of the proposals of NPP and to give concrete shape to them. Based on water balance studies of 137 basins/sub-basins, 71 diversion points, toposheet studies of 74 reservoirs and 37 link alignments conducted, NWDA has identified 30 links (16 under Peninsular Component & 14 under Himalayan Component) for preparation of Feasibility Reports (FRs). Out of these, FRs of 14 links under Peninsular Component and 2 links (Indian Portion) under Himalayan Component have already been completed. The Inter-linking proposals under NPP envisages additional benefits of 25 million ha. of irrigation from surface water, 10 million ha. by increased use of ground waters and generation of 34 Thousand MW of power apart from the incidental benefits of flood moderation, navigation, water supply, salinity & pollution control etc.

(c),(d),(e) & (f)Detailed Project Report (DPR) of one project namely Bodwad Major Irrigation project on river Tapi benefiting the Jalgaon District of Maharashtra has been received in May, 2010 for techno economic appraisal. Further, the preliminary report of another project namely Lower Tapi project on river Tapi benefiting the Jalgaon district received in Central Water Commission (CWC) was examined and comments were sent to the project authorities in March, 2010. Irrigation being a state subject, irrigation projects are planned funded and implemented by the State Governments from their own sources as per their priorities. However, Central Government provides financial assistance to the State Governments under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) for expeditious completion of on going projects as per the guidelines of the programme in force from time to time. The State Government can seek Central assistance under AIBP for the aforesaid projects after techno-economic / statutory clearance and investment clearance of Planning Commission subject to the condition that the projects fulfill the eligibility conditions as per AIBP guidelines.