

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. *222

ANSWERED ON 16.12.2024

INTERLINKING OF RIVERS

*222 SMT. KIRAN CHOUDHRY

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated any comprehensive plan for the interlinking of rivers in the country as part of the National Perspective Plan (NPP) to address issues related to water scarcity, flood control, and irrigation;
- (b) if so, the details of the key interlinking projects currently under implementation, including the rivers involved, progress made so far, and the estimated timeline for their completion; and
- (c) the expected benefits of river interlinking projects, particularly in terms of improving agricultural productivity, ensuring drinking water supply, and mitigating floods in various regions?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI C R PAATIL)

(a) to (c) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. *222 TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.12.2024 IN RAJYA SABHA REGARDING “INTERLINKING OF RIVERS”

(a) The Government of India formulated a National Perspective Plan (NPP) in 1980 for providing storages and transfer of surplus waters from the water-surplus basins to the water-deficit regions to minimize the miseries brought by droughts and also to mitigate the ravages of annually recurring floods. The National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has been entrusted with work of Interlinking of Rivers (ILR) under the NPP. Under the NPP, 30 ILR projects have been identified, out of which, Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of 11 link projects, Feasibility Reports (FRs) of 26 link projects and Pre Feasibility Reports (PFRs) of all the 30 link projects have been completed. The Government of India has accorded top priority to the ILR Programme. Five ILR projects have been identified as the Priority link projects, viz; Ken Betwa Link Project (KBLP), Godavari-Cauvery link project {comprising 3 link projects - Godavari (Inchampalli)- Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) link, Krishna (Nagarjunasagar)-Pennar (Somasila) link and Pennar (Somasila)-Cauvery link)} and Modified Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal link (MPKC) Link project.

(b) The Ken-Betwa Link Project (KBLP) is the first ILR project under the NPP, implementation of which has started. The project was approved by the Government of India in December, 2021, for implementation, with an estimated cost of Rs. 44,605 crore (at price level 2020-21) with a Central Support of at Rs. 39,317 crore. The major rivers involved in the project include the rivers Ken, Betwa, Orr, Bina, etc. The project is scheduled to be completed by March, 2030. Progress made till date in respect of the project is enclosed at **Annexure-I**.

(c) The details of benefits as planned from the ILR projects under the NPP are given at **Annexure-II**.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *222 TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.12.2024 REGARDING “INTERLINKING OF RIVERS”.

Details of progress made for Ken-Betwa link project (KBLP)

- **Approval by Cabinet:** This is the first link of NPP. The Govt. of India has approved the implementation of KBLP in December, 2021 with an estimated cost of Rs 44605 crore (year 2020-21 price level) with central support of Rs 39317 crore through a Special Purpose Vehicle viz; Ken Betwa Link Project Authority (KBLPA). Initial focus is on land acquisition, R & R and EMP of the project.
- **Benefits:** This project is envisaged to provide annual irrigation of 10.62 lakh ha. in Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh (mostly in Bundelkhand region) and drinking water supply to approximately 62 lakh people in both the States. The initial focus is land acquisition, R&R of affected people and meeting conditions of environment and forest clearances.
- **Tender of Daudhan Dam:** The tender for Daudhan dam and appurtenant structures has been awarded and the Letter of Acceptance (LOA) was issued by KBLPA on 28.11.2024.
- **Status of Land Acquisition:** Regarding compliance with forest clearance requirements, 6,017 ha of non-forest land have been transferred and notified by the Forest Department of Madhya Pradesh (MP). For submergence areas under the Daudhan Dam, 1,454.33 ha of private land and 1,604.429 ha of Government land were mutated in favour of Water Resources Department (WRD), MP. Land acquisition for the Ken-Betwa Link Canal affected 99 villages in MP, and notifications under Section 11(1) of the RFCTLARR Act, 2013, have been published.
- **Status of Resettlement and Rehabilitation:** For resettlement and rehabilitation (R&R), a special R&R package was approved by the Government of MP in 2023. The matter is regularly reviewed in the meetings of the National Monitoring Committee.

ANNEXURE-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *222 TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.12.2024 REGARDING “INTERLINKING OF RIVERS”

Details of benefits planned from the ILR Projects**Peninsular component**

Sl. No	Name	States benefited	Annual Irrigation (Lakh hectare)	Domestic & Industrial (Million Cubic Metre)	Hydropower (Megawatt)
1.	a. Mahanadi (Manibhadra) - Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) link	Andhra Pradesh (AP) and Odisha	4.43	802	445
	b. Alternate Mahanadi (Barmul) - Rushikulya – Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) link	AP and Odisha	6.25 (0.91 + 3.52 + 1.82**)	700 + 125**	210 + 240**
2.	Godavari (Polavaram) - Krishna (Vijayawada) link @	AP	2.1	162	--
3.	a. Godavari (Inchampalli) - Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) link	Telangana	2.87	237	1045
	b. Alternate Godavari (Inchampalli) - Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) link *	Telangana	2.38	232	26
4.	Godavari (Inchampalli/SSMPP) - Krishna (Pulichintala) link	Telangana and AP	4.74 (0.36+ 4.38)	346	90
5.	a. Krishna (Nagarjunasagar)-Pennar (Somasila) link	AP	5.81	124	90
	b. Alternate Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) - Pennar (Somasila) link *	AP	1.71	236	40
6.	Krishna (Srisailam) – Pennar link	AP	1.79	58	11
7.	Krishna (Almatti) – Pennar link	Karnataka	0.69	467	--
		AP	1.57	29.83	
8.	a. Pennar (Somasila) - Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link	AP, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry	4.91 (0.49+ 4.36 +0.06)	1105	--
	b. Alternate Pennar (Somasila) - Cauvery (Grand Anicut)link*	AP	0.51	43	---
		Tamil Nadu	1.14	618	
Puducherry	--	62			
9.	Cauvery (Kattalai) - Vaigai-Gundar link	Tamil Nadu	4.48	218	--

10.	a. Parbati – Kalisindh - Chambal link	Madhya Pradesh (MP) & Rajasthan	Alt. I = 2.30 Alt.II = 2.20	- 13.2	--
	b) Modified Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal link (duly integrated with Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project)	MP and Rajasthan	3.38 (as per draft PFR) MP – 2.58 Rajasthan- 0.8	Rajasthan-Domestic-1723 Industrial-286 MP-Domestic-36	-
11.	Damanganga - Pinjal link	Maharashtra (only water supply to Mumbai)	--	895	5
12.	Par-Tapi-Narmada link	Gujarat	2.28	76	21
		Maharashtra	0.04	--	--
13.	Ken-Betwa link	Uttar Pradesh (UP) and MP	10.62 (2.51 +8.11)	194	103 (Hydro) and 27 (Solar)
14.	Pamba- Achankovil- Vaippar link	Tamil Nadu	0.91	--	3.87
		Kerala			504.5
15.	Bedti - Varda link@@	Karnataka	1.05	38	----
16.	Netravati – Hemavati link***	Karnataka	0.34	--	--

**Benefit to Odisha from Six Projects of Government of Odisha

For PKC links at Serial no.10 (a): Alt I- Linking with Gandhisagar Dam, Alt. II- Linking with Rana Pratap Sagar Dam

* Due to pending consensus on the Manibhadra and Inchampalli dams, an Alternate study to divert unutilized waters of the Godavari river was carried out, and DPR of Godavari (Inchampalli) – Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) - Pennar (Somasila) – Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link projects were completed. Godavari-Cauvery link project has been prepared comprising of Godavari (Inchampalli) - Krishna (Nagarjunasagar), Krishna (Nagarjunasagar)- Pennar (Somasila) and Pennar(Somasila)-Cauvery(Grand Anicut) link projects.

@ Godavari (Polavaram)- Krishna (Vijayawada) Link- The project has been taken up by the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

@@ Bedti – Varda Link- DPR was prepared directly after the preparation of its PFR, no FR was prepared.

*** Further studies have not been taken up since after the implementation of the Yettinahole project by Govt. of Karnataka, as no surplus water is available in the Netravati basin for diversion through this link.

Himalayan Component

Sl. No	Name	States / Countries benefited	Annual Irrigation (Lakh hectare)	Domestic & Industrial (Million Cubic Metre)	Hydro power (Megawatt)
1.	Kosi-Mechi link (Inter-State Link)	Bihar and Nepal	4.74 (2.99+1.75)	24	3180
2.	Kosi-Ghaghra link	Bihar, UP and Nepal	8.35 (6.05+1.20+1.10)	0	--
3.	Gandak - Ganga link	UP and Nepal	34.58 (28.80+5.78)	700	4375 [Dam Power House (PH)] and 180 (Canal PH)
4.	Ghaghra - Yamuna link	UP and Nepal	27.84 (25.30 + 2.54)	1391	10884
5.	Sarda - Yamuna link	UP and Uttarakhand	2.95 (2.65 + 0.30)	3054	6620
6.	Yamuna-Rajasthan link	Haryana and Rajasthan	2.51 (0.11+ 2.40)	30	--
7.	Rajasthan-Sabarmati link	Rajasthan and Gujarat	11.53 (11.21+0.32)	102	--
8.	Chunar-Sone Barrage link	Bihar and UP	0.67 (0.13 + 0.54)	--	--
9.	Sone Dam - Southern Tributaries of Ganga link	Bihar and Jharkhand	3.07 (2.39 + 0.68)	360	95(90 Dam PH) & 5 (Canal PH)
10.	Manas-Sankosh-Tista-Ganga (M-S-T-G) link	Assam, West Bengal (WB) and Bihar	3.41 (2.05 + 1.00 + 0.36)	--	--
11.	Jogighopa-Tista-Farakka link (Alternative to M-S-T-G)	Assam, WB and Bihar	3.559 (0.975+ 1.564+ 1.02)	265	360
12.	Farakka-Sundarbans link	WB	1.50	184	--
13.	Ganga(Farakka) - Damodar-Subarnarekha link	WB, Odisha and Jharkhand	12.30 (11.18+ 0.39+ 0.73)	432	--
14.	Subarnarekha-Mahanadi link	WB and Odisha	2.16 (0.18+ 1.98)	198	20
