

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION  
**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.725**

ANSWERED ON 02.12.2024

**IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF RIVER LINKING PROJECTS**

725. SHRI R. DHARMAR

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of river linking proposals/projects initiated by Government and the present status of each of them;
- (b) the budgetary allocation made under the river linking initiative of Government since inception and the actual utilisation of funds so far, State-wise;
- (c) whether the work of river linking is being adversely affected due to various disputes, particularly inter-State disputes over several rivers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by Government to remove such obstacles for smooth implementation of river linking projects; and
- (e) the time by when it is likely to be completed?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI**

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) The Government of India formulated a National Perspective Plan (NPP) in 1980 to provide for water transfer from the water-surplus basins to the water-deficit regions. The National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has been entrusted with the Interlinking of Rivers (ILR) work under the NPP. Under the NPP, 30 ILR projects have been identified, 16 projects under the Peninsular component and 14 projects under the Himalayan component. Out of these 30 ILR projects, Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of 11 projects, Feasibility Reports (FRs) of 26 link projects, and Pre-Feasibility Reports (PFRs) of all the 30 link projects have been completed. The present Status of ILR Projects under the NPP is given in the **Annexure**.

The Government of India has accorded top priority to the ILR program. Five ILR projects under the NPP have been identified as “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 (PKC) Link project.

KBLP is the first ILR project under the NPP, the implementation of which has started. A tripartite agreement was signed amongst the States of Madhya Pradesh (MP), Uttar Pradesh (UP), and the

Government of India for implementation of KBLP in March 2021. The Government of India, subsequently in December 2021, approved the implementation of KBLP with an estimated cost of Rs. 44,605 crore at the year 2020-21 price level with central support of Rs. 39,317 crore, through a Special Purpose Vehicle, viz.; the Ken-Betwa Link Project Authority.

**(b)** The budgetary allocation has been made under the river linking initiative of the Government for India for the KBLP only, as this is the first ILR project, implementation of which has started. After the project was approved by the Government of India in December 2021, budgetary provisions of Rs. 4644.46 crore, Rs. 1400 crore, and Rs. 3500 crore were made in the Union budget for the project, during the Financial Year (FY) 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 respectively. During the current Financial Year 2024-25, a budgetary provision of Rs. 4,000 crores has been made in the Union budget for the project. With such budget provisions, a total expenditure of Rs. 8022.27 crore has been incurred on the project till 31.10.2024, by the Government of India. Whereas, the total expenditure made on the project till 31.10.2024, by the State Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh amount to Rs. 4587.41 crores and Rs. 38.98 crores respectively. In addition to this, a reimbursement of Rs. 2158.38 crore has also been made to the Government of Madhya Pradesh by the Government of India in respect of the phase-II component of the project.

**(c) to (d)** In a federal setup, the State Governments with surplus river water basin(s) sometimes have reservations about projects involving transfer of such surpluses. Such reservations slow down of the process of consensus building amongst the party states and affect the progress of ILR projects. However, the Government of India has made concerted efforts to reduce such apprehensions among the party States and has persuaded them to bring them on board in respect of various ILR projects that are at an advanced stage of consensus building.

In this regard, a Special Committee on Interlinking of Rivers (SCILR) was constituted in September 2014 for the implementation of the ILR program. 21 meetings of the SCILR have been held so far. Further, a Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers (TFILR) was constituted in April 2015 and 20 meetings of the same have been held so far. States have wide representation and participation in these meetings, wherein collaborative efforts are made for consensus building amongst the party States and for setting out road maps for implementation of the ILR projects. It is, however, for the party States to reach a consensus for implementation of an ILR project.

**(e)** With respect to ILR projects, for the reasons elaborated above, the schedule of implementation and completion cannot be given. However, once party States reach a consensus, then that ILR project with all its physical items is detailed out and approved, the implementation of these components is monitored with timelines for its completion.

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**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 725 TO BE ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 02.12.2024 REGARDING “IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF RIVER LINKING PROJECTS”.**

**STATUS OF ILR PROJECTS UNDER THE NPP**

**Peninsular Component**

<b>Sl. No</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>States benefited</b>	<b>Status</b>
1	a. Mahanadi (Manibhadra) - Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) link	Andhra Pradesh (AP) and Odisha	FR completed
	b. Alternate Mahanadi (Barmul) - Rushikulya – Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) link	AP and Odisha	FR completed
2	Godavari (Polavaram) - Krishna (Vijayawada) link %%	AP	FR completed
3	a. ) Godavari (Inchampalli) - Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) link	Telangana	FR completed
	b. Alternate Godavari (Inchampalli) - Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) link *	Telangana	DPR completed
4	Godavari (Inchampalli / SSMPP) - Krishna (Pulichintala) link	Telangana and AP	DPR completed
5	a. ) Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) - Pennar (Somasila ) link	AP	FR completed
	b. ) Alternate Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) - Pennar (Somasila ) link *	AP	DPR completed
6	Krishna (Srisailem) – Pennar link	AP	Draft DPR completed
7	Krishna (Almatti) – Pennar link	AP and Karnataka	Draft DPR completed
8	a. ) Pennar (Somasila) - Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link	AP, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry	FR completed
	b) Alternate Pennar (Somasila) - Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link *	AP, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry	DPR completed
9	Cauvery (Kattalai) - Vaigai - Gundar link	Tamil Nadu	DPR completed
10	a. Parbati –Kalisindh - Chambal link	Madhya Pradesh (MP) and Rajasthan	FR completed
	b. Modified Parbati – Kalisindh-Chambal link ( duly integrated with ERCP)	MP and Rajasthan	Draft PFR completed
11	Damanganga - Pinjal link	Maharashtra	DPR completed
12	Par-Tapi-Narmada link	Gujarat and Maharashtra	DPR completed
13	Ken-Betwa link	Uttar Pradesh (UP) and MP	DPR completed and the project is under implementation
14	Pamba - Achankovil – Vaippar link	Tamil Nadu and Kerala	FR completed
15	Bedti - Varda link %	Karnataka	DPR completed
16	Netravati – Hemavati link **	Karnataka	PFR completed

\* Due to pending consensus on Manibhadra and Inchampalli dams, Alternate study to divert unutilized waters of Godavari river was carried out and DPR of Godavari (Inchampalli) – Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) - Pennar (Somasila) – Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link project was 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. The report was further updated terminating the link canal at Manimukhta nadi, a tributary of Vellar river flowing adjacent of Cauvery basin.

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

% Godavari (Polavaram) - Krishna (Vijayawada) link – The project has been taken up by Govt. of Andhra Pradesh.

% Bedti - Varda link – DPR was prepared directly after preparation of its PFR, no FR was prepared

### **Himalayan Component**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Name of the Link</b>	<b>Country/ States benefited</b>	<b>Status</b>
1.	Kosi-Mechi link	Bihar and Nepal	PFR completed
2.	Kosi-Ghaghra link	Bihar, UP and Nepal	FR completed
3.	Gandak - Ganga link	UP and Nepal	FR completed
4.	Ghaghra - Yamuna link	UP and Nepal	Draft FR completed
5.	Sarda - Yamuna link	UP and Uttarakhand	FR completed
6.	Yamuna-Rajasthan link	Haryana and Rajasthan	FR completed
7.	Rajasthan-Sabarmati link	Rajasthan and Gujarat	FR completed
8.	Chunar - Sone Barrage link	Bihar and UP	Draft FR completed
9.	Sone Dam - Southern Tributaries of Ganga link	Bihar and Jharkhand	Draft FR completed
10.	Manas-Sankosh-Tista-Ganga (M-S-T-G) link	Assam, West Bengal (WB) and Bihar	FR completed
11.	Jogighopa-Tista-Farakka link (Alternative to M-S-T-G)	Assam, WB and Bihar	PFR completed (The proposal has been dropped)
12.	Farakka-Sundarbans link	WB	FR completed
13.	Ganga(Farakka) - Damodar-Subarnarekha link	WB, Odisha and Jharkhand	FR completed
14.	Subarnarekha-Mahanadi link	WB and Odisha	FR completed

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