

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

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2479**

ANSWERED ON 11.08.2025

**CURRENT STATUS OF THE INTER-LINKING OF RIVERS PROJECT**

2479. SHRI A. D. SINGH

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

- (a) the current status of the Inter-Linking of Rivers (ILR) project in the country;
- (b) the number of projects identified under it;
- (c) whether any feasibility studies or environmental and social impact assessments have been conducted for the proposed river-linking projects;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the quantum of funds allocated and released so far for the implementation of ILR projects; and
- (f) the timeline and priority accorded to specific river-linking projects under the National Perspective Plan?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI**

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

**(a) & (b)** The Government of India has formulated the National Perspective Plan (NPP), under which 30 Interlinking of Rivers (ILR) projects have been identified to address water scarcity and augment irrigation facilities across the country. The National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has been entrusted with implementing the ILR programme under the NPP. Out of 30 link projects, Pre-Feasibility Reports have been completed for all 30 identified link projects. Following this, Feasibility Reports have been finalized for 26 projects—while the remaining four do not require such reports—and Detailed Project Reports have been prepared for 11 link projects. Details of the status of ILR projects under the NPP are given at **Annexure**.

**(c) & (d)** An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is conducted for each river interlinking project during the formulation of Feasibility Reports (FRs) and Detailed Project Reports (DPRs). The study aims to systematically evaluate the project's potential positive and adverse effects on the physical, biological, and socio-economic environment, ensuring that environmental considerations are integrated into the planning and decision-making processes.

With respect to the Ken–Betwa Link Project (KBLP), the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) has been completed, and Environmental Clearance has been granted. Regarding KBLP, an Integrated Landscape Management Plan (ILMP) has been formulated to enhance habitat quality, maintain critical wildlife corridors connecting adjacent Protected Areas (PAs), and facilitate the holistic conservation and management of flagship species such as tigers, vultures, and gharials. The ILMP also aims to promote biodiversity conservation within the Panna Tiger Reserve (PTR) and its surrounding ecologically sensitive zones. To ensure systematic and time-bound implementation of the ILMP, a Greater Panna Landscape Council (GPLC) has been constituted under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, Government of Madhya Pradesh.

(e) Ken –Betwa Link Project (KBLP) is the only project of NPP under implementation with an estimated cost of Rs. 44,605 crores with Central support of Rs 39,317 Cr.. As of June 2025, a total expenditure of ₹11,329 crore has been incurred on the Ken–Betwa Link Project (KBLP), of which ₹8,611.14 crore has been released as the Central Government’s share

(f) The Government of India has identified five Interlinking of Rivers (ILR) projects under the National Perspective Plan (NPP) as priority links, namely the Ken–Betwa Link Project (KBLP), the Modified Parbati–Kalisindh–Chambal (MPKC) Link, and three links under the Godavari–Cauvery Link Project, which include the Godavari (Inchampalli)–Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) Link, the Krishna (Nagarjunasagar)–Pennar (Somasila) Link, and the Pennar (Somasila)–Cauvery Link.

Among these, KBLP is the first and only ILR project under the NPP that has reached the implementation stage. The project is planned to be completed within a period of eight years, by March 2030.

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**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2479 TO BE ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 11.08.2025 REGARDING “CURRENT STATUS OF THE INTER-LINKING OF RIVERS PROJECTS”.**

**Details and current status of ILR projects under the NPP**

**Peninsular Components**

Sl.No	Name	States benefited	Status
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, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Telangana	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 (Almati) – 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	MoA for implementation has been signed by both the States
11	Damanganga-Pinjal link	Maharashtra (only water supply to Mumbai)	DPR completed
12	Par-Tapi-Narmada link	Gujarat and Maharashtra	DPR completed
13	Ken-Betwa link	Uttar Pradesh (UP) and MP	DPR completed & 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/ Janampet) – Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) - Pennar (Somasila) – Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link projects were completed. Godavari- Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link project has been prepared comprising of Godavari (Inchampalli / Janampet) - Krishna (Nagarjunasagar), Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) - Pennar (Somasila) and Pennar (Somasila) Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link projects.

\*\* Further studies are not taken up since after implementation of Yettinahole project by Government of Karnataka, 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 Government of Andhra Pradesh.

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

#### **Himalayan Component**

Sl.No	Name of the link	States / Countries benefited	Status
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	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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