

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES,
RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †2590
ANSWERED ON 02.08.2018

INTER-LINKING OF RIVERS

†2590. SHRI RAHUL KASWAN

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has inter-linked various rivers in the country and if so, the details thereof, river-wise;
- (b) the total area irrigated/ likely to be irrigated as a result of the same;
- (c) the corrective action taken with regard to inter-linking of rivers in the country; and
- (d) the time by which the said work is likely to be completed?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION & PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a) The National Perspective Plan (NPP) was prepared by the then Ministry of Irrigation (now Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation) in August 1980 for transferring water from water surplus basins to water-deficit basins. Under the NPP, the National Water Development Agency (NWDA) identified 30 links (16 under Peninsular Component & 14 under Himalayan Component) for preparation of Feasibility Reports (FRs). The Pre-Feasibility Reports (PFRs) of the all 30 links have been prepared and circulated to the concerned State Governments. After survey and investigations, FRs of 14 links under Peninsular Component and FRs of 2 links and draft FRs of 7 links (Indian portion) under Himalayan Component have been completed. Present status and States concerned are given in **Annexure**.

Five priority links under Peninsular Rivers Component have been identified viz; Ken-Betwa link project (KBLP) Phase –I & II, Damanganga-Pinjal link project, Par-Tapi-Narmada link project, Mahanadi-Godavari link project and Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal link Project. Based on the concurrence of the concerned States, Detailed Projects Reports (DPRs) of KBLP Phase-I & Phase-II, Damanganga-Pinjal link project and Par-Tapi-Narmada link project have been completed. The techno-economic clearance and various statutory clearances of the KBLP Phase-I have been accorded except clearance from Central Empowered Committee (CEC) of the Supreme Court. Based on the request of Government of Madhya Pradesh, Lower Orr dam, Bina complex and Kotha barrage projects have been included in KBLP Phase-II. The DPR of these projects have been completed by NWDA/ Government of Madhya Pradesh. The draft Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) for implementation of Ken-Betwa Link Project has been sent to Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh for concurrence.

Contd..P2/-

The techno-economic clearance of the Damanganga-Pinjal link project has also been accorded, subject to statutory clearances. The DPR of Par-Tapi-Narmada link project has been completed by NWDA. The combined draft MoA for implementation of Damanganga-Pinjal and Par-Tapi-Narmada Link (including the four intra-state link projects of Maharashtra State) has been sent to Maharashtra and Gujarat State Governments for concurrence.

(b) It is estimated that implementation of all the Inter Linking of Rivers (ILR) projects under NPP would give benefit of 25 million ha. of irrigation from surface waters and 10 million ha by increased use of ground waters, raising the ultimate irrigation potential from 140 million ha to 175 million ha.

(c) & (d) The ILR programme has been taken up on high priority. The Government is pursuing the ILR program in a consultative manner.

The Supreme Court vide its judgment dated 27.02.2012 in the Writ Petition (Civil) No. 512 of 2002 on 'Networking of Rivers' along with Writ Petition No. 668 of 2002' directed the Union of India and particularly the Ministry of Water Resources to constitute a Committee under the chairmanship of Minister of Water Resources for the implementation of ILR.

As per the directions of Supreme Court, a committee called "Special Committee on Interlinking of Rivers" was constituted under the Chairmanship of the Union Minister of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR, RD & GR) for the implementation of ILR programme vide Gazette Notification dated 23rd September, 2014. Fourteen meetings of the Special Committee for ILR have been held so far (last meeting held on 17.01.2018 at New Delhi), wherein State Irrigation/ Water Resources Ministers along with the Secretaries of various States participated. The Special Committee on ILR takes into consideration all the suggestions/observations of the stakeholders while planning and formulating the ILR projects. Vigorous efforts have been made for generating consensus with development of alternative plans and also setting out road maps for implementation of mature projects.

Further, the Union Cabinet while approving the constitution of Special Committee for ILR in its meeting held on 24th July, 2014 further, directed that a committee comprising of experts be constituted to look into the issues relating to inter linking of rivers. In compliance to the direction of Union Cabinet, MoWR, RD & GR vide O.M. dated 13th April, 2015 has constituted a Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers (TF-ILR) under the Chairmanship of Shri B.N. Navalawala, Chief Advisor, MoWR, RD&GR. So far, nine meetings of the TF-ILR have been held and the last meeting was held on 30.05.2018.

The implementation of ILR projects involves various steps such as preparation of PFRs/FRs; negotiation and consensus among concerned States; preparation of DPRs; clearance from appraisal agencies including clearance by Ministry of Environment & Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) and Ministry of Tribal Affairs; techno-economic clearance by Advisory Committee on Irrigation, Flood Control & Multipurpose Projects of MoWR, RD & GR; investment clearance and the actual construction time required for the completion of the project as per DPR.

The implementation of a project is taken up after preparation of its DPR with the consensus of concerned States and obtaining requisite statutory clearances. No time frame can be fixed for the implementation of the programme at this stage.

ANNEXURE

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of Unstarred Question No. † 2590 to be answered in Lok Sabha on 02.08.2018 regarding “Inter-Linking of Rivers”.

Present status of Inter Basin Water Transfer Links, the States involved, name of rivers and status of Feasibility Reports/Detailed Project Report

Sl. No	Name	Rivers	States concerned	Status
Peninsular Component				
1	Mahanadi (Manibhadra) - Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) link	Mahanadi & Godavari	Odisha, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, & Chattisgarh	FR Completed
2	Godavari (Inchampalli) - Krishna (Pulichintala) link	Godavari & Krishna	-do-	FR Completed
3	Godavari (Inchampalli) - Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) link	Godavari & Krishna	Odisha, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka & Chattisgarh,	FR Completed
4	Godavari (Polavaram) - Krishna (Vijayawada) link	Godavari & Krishna	Odisha, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, & Chattisgarh	FR Completed
5	Krishna (Almatti) – Pennar link	Krishna & Pennar	-do-	FR Completed
6	Krishna (Srisailem) – Pennar link	Krishna & Pennar	-do-	FR Completed
7	Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) - Pennar (Somasila) link	Krishna & Pennar	Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh & Karnataka,	FR Completed
8	Pennar (Somasila) - Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link	Pennar & Cauvery	Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala & Puducherry	FR Completed
9	Cauvery (Kattalai) - Vaigai -Gundar link	Cauvery, Vaigai & Gundar	Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala & Puducherry	FR Completed
10	Ken-Betwa link	Ken & Betwa	Uttar Pradesh & Madhya Pradesh	FR & DPR (Ph-I&II) Completed
11	Parbati -Kalisindh- Chambal link	Parbati, Kalisindh & Chambal	Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan & Uttar Pradesh (UP requested to be consulted during consensus building)	FR Completed
12	Par-Tapi-Narmada link	Par, Tapi & Narmada	Maharashtra & Gujarat	FR & DPR Completed
13	Damanganga - Pinjal link	Damanganga & Pinjal	Maharashtra & Gujarat	FR & DPR Completed
14	Bedti - Varda link	Bedti & Varda	Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh & Karnataka	PFR Completed
15	Netravati – Hemavati link	Netravati & Hemavati	Karnataka, Tamil Nadu & Kerala	PFR Completed
16	Pamba - Achankovil - Vaippar link	Pamba, Achankovil & Vaippar	Kerala & Tamil Nadu,	FR Completed

Sl. No	Name	Rivers	States concerned	Status
Himalayan Component				
1.	Manas-Sankosh-Tista-Ganga (M-S-T-G) link	Manas-Sankosh-Tista-Ganga	Assam, West Bengal, Bihar & Bhutan	PFR completed
2.	Kosi-Ghaghra link	Kosi & Ghaghra	Bihar, Uttar Pradesh & Nepal	PFR completed
3.	Gandak-Ganga link	Gandak & Ganga	-do-	Draft FR completed (Indian portion)
4.	Ghaghra-Yamuna link	Ghaghra & Yamuna	-do-	FR completed (Indian portion)
5.	Sarda-Yamuna link	Sarda & Yamuna	Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand & Nepal	FR completed (Indian portion)
6.	Yamuna-Rajasthan link	Yamuna & Sukri	Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana & Rajasthan	Draft FR completed
7.	Rajasthan-Sabarmati link	Sabarmati	-do-	Draft FR completed
8.	Chunar-Sone Barrage link	Ganga & Sone	Bihar & Uttar Pradesh	Draft FR completed
9.	Sone Dam – Southern Tributaries of Ganga link	Sone & Badua	Bihar & Jharkhand	PFR completed
10.	Ganga(Farakka)-Damodar-Subernarekha link	Ganga, Damodar & Subernarekha	West Bengal, Odisha & Jharkhand	Draft FR completed
11.	Subernarekha-Mahanadi link	Subernarekha & Mahanadi	West Bengal & Odisha	Draft FR Completed
12.	Kosi-Mechi link	Kosi & Mechi	Bihar, West Bengal & Nepal	PFR completed Entirely lies in Nepal
13.	Ganga (Farakka)-Sunderbans link	Ganga & Ichhamati	West Bengal	Draft FR completed
14.	Jogighopa-Tista-Farakka link (Alternative to M-S-T-G)	Manas, Tista & Ganga	-do-	(Alternative to M-S-T-G Link) dropped

- PFR- Pre Feasibility Report
- FR- Feasibility Report
- DPR- Detailed Project Report