

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 258**

ANSWERED ON 08.12.2022

**INTER-LINKING OF RIVERS**

258. SHRI PALLAB LOCHAN DAS  
SHRI PATEL HASMUKHBHAI SOMABHAI  
SHRI RATANSINH MAGANSINH RATHOD  
SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH JAUNAPURIA

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government proposes for inter-linking of rivers in the country including Gujarat;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the initiatives taken by the Government for water conservation and restoration of traditional water sources;
- (d) whether it is a fact that inter-linking of rivers helps in water conservation and restoration of water sources and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government has conducted any survey to ascertain the benefits of inter-linking of river projects for most drought affected States like Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI  
(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

**(a) & (b)** The National Perspective Plan (NPP) was prepared by the then Ministry of Irrigation (now Ministry of Jal Shakti) in August 1980 for development of water resources through inter basin transfer of water, for transferring water from water-surplus basins to water-deficit basins. Under the NPP, the National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has identified 30 links (16 under Peninsular Component & 14 under Himalayan Component) for preparation of Feasibility Reports. Details and status of the proposals for inter-linking of rivers under the Inter Linking of Rivers (ILR) Programme is furnished at **Annexure-I**.

**(c) & (d)** Water being a State subject, steps for augmentation, conservation and efficient management to ensure sustainability of water resources are undertaken by the respective State Governments. However, Government of India has taken several initiatives by way of providing technical and financial assistance to the State Governments for the projects planned towards water conservation and restoration of traditional water sources, through various schemes, such as Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies and Surface Minor Irrigation (SMI) Schemes, Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain - 2022 campaign, etc.

Under the scheme of RRR of Water Bodies, rural water bodies having minimum water spread area of 2 hectares (1 hectare for North Eastern, Sikkim and Hilly States including UTs of J&K and Ladakh), and urban water bodies having minimum water spread area of 1 hectare (0.5 hectare for North Eastern, Sikkim and Hilly States including UTs of J&K and Ladakh) are eligible for inclusion with the objectives of restoration of water bodies for assured supply of water for irrigation, increased availability of drinking water, ground water recharge and water conservation.

Surface Minor Irrigation (SMI) scheme targeting to provide financial assistance to the identified minor irrigation projects (with irrigation potential less than 2,000 hectare) using surface water, have been included under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) since 1999-2000 for special category States. Subsequently, the scheme has been extended to areas covering Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), Tribal, Desert Development Programme (DDP), Flood prone, Left Wing Extremism and Koraput, Bolangir and Kalahandi (KBK) region of Odisha, Bundelkhand region of UP and MP and Marathwada and Vidharbha regions of Maharashtra. Main objective of SMI schemes is to expand cultivable area under assured irrigation.

Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain - 2022 Campaign has been launched in March, 2022 in all districts of the country. The campaign, inter alia, focuses on interventions for water conservation and rainwater harvesting, which include making of roof-top Rain Water Harvesting Structures (RWHS) on buildings and water harvesting pits in compounds; maintenance of existing RWHS and creation of new check dams/ ponds; renovation of traditional water harvesting Structures; removal of encroachments of lakes/ tanks and in their catchment channels; desilting of tanks, spring shed development, etc.

The Interlinking of Rivers (ILR) projects under NPP would also help in water conservation by mitigating effects of floods and droughts. The ILR projects would also help in recharge of ground water and tanks, etc. in the command areas, thus, leading to substantial water conservation, besides primarily providing for irrigation benefits, augmentation of drinking water supply and hydro-power generation. The implementation of ILR projects as per NPP shall help in harnessing and transfer of approximately 166 Billion Cubic Metres of water.

(e) Detailed survey and investigation for ILR projects has been conducted during preparation of Detailed Project Report of Ken–Betwa Link Project and Feasibility Reports of other link projects pertaining to the States of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

Three link projects under NPP viz; Yamuna-Rajasthan link, Rajasthan-Sabarmati link and Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal link will benefit the State of Rajasthan. As per the surveys and Studies done by NWDA, the benefits and present status of the links are furnished at **Annexure-II**.

Two link projects under NPP viz; Ken-Betwa link and Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal link will benefit the State of Madhya Pradesh. The Ken-Betwa link is the first link under NPP for which implementation has been initiated. The benefits and present status of the links benefitting Madhya Pradesh are furnished at **Annexure-III**.

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**ANNEXURE-I**

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 258 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 08.12.2022 REGARDING “INTER-LINKING OF RIVERS”.**

**Details and status of the proposals for inter-linking of rivers under the Inter Linking of Rivers Programme**

S. No	Name	Rivers	States concerned	Status
<b>Peninsular Component</b>				
1(a)	Mahanadi (Manibhadra)– Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) link	Mahanadi and Godavari	Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Karnataka and Maharashtra	FR Completed.
1(b)	Mahanadi (Bermul)– Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) link	Mahanadi and Godavari	do	FR Completed.*
2	Godavari(Inchampall)- Krishna(Pulichintala) link	Godavari and Krishna	Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Karnataka	FR Completed.
3	Godavari(Inchampalli)- Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) link	Godavari and Krishna	--do--	FR Completed. DPR Completed.
4	Godavari(Polavaram) - Krishna(Vijayawada) link	Godavari and Krishna	--do--	FR Completed.
5	Krishna(Almatti) –Pennar link	Krishna and Pennar	Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Karnataka	FR Completed.
6	Krishna (Srisailem)– Pennar link	Krishna and Pennar	--do--	FR Completed.
7	Krishna(Nagarjunasagar) -Pennar (Somasila) link	Krishna and Pennar	--do--	FR Completed. DPR Completed.
8	Pennar (Somasila)– Cauvery(Grand Anicut) link	Pennar and Cauvery	Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Puducherry	FR Completed. DPR Completed.
9	Cauvery (Kattalai)– Vaigai–Gundar link	Cauvery, Vaigai and Gundar	Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Puducherry	DPR Completed.
10	Ken–Betwa link	Ken and Betwa	Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh	DPR (Phase – I, II & Comprehensive report) Completed.
11 (i)	Parbati – Kalisindh – Chambal link	Parbati, Kalisindh and Chambal	Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan requested to be Consulted during consensus building)	FR Completed.
(ii)	Parbati-Kuno-Sindh link	Parbati, Kuno and Sindh	Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan	PFR completed.\$
12	Par-Tapi-Narmada link	Par, Tapi and Narmada	Maharashtra and Gujarat	DPR Completed.
13	Damanganga – Pinjal link	Damanganga and Pinjal	--do--	DPR Completed.

14	Bedti-Varada link	Bedti and Varada	Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka	PFR Completed. Draft DPR completed
15	Netravati – Hemavati link	Netravati and Hemavati	Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala	PFR Completed.
16	Pamba - Achankovil – Vaippar link	Pamba,Achankovil and Vaippar	Kerala and Tamil Nadu	FR Completed.
<b>§ Integration of Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project of Rajasthan and Parbati – Kalisindh – Chambal link.</b>				
<b>Himalayan Component</b>				
1.	Manas-Sankosh-Tista-Ganga(M-S-T-G)link	Manas, Sankosh, Tista and Ganga	BHUTAN&INDIA (Assam,West Bengal and Bihar)	FR completed.
2.	Kosi-Ghaghra link	Kosi and Ghaghra	NEPAL&INDIA (Bihar and Uttar Pradesh)	PFR completed
3.	Gandak-Ganga link	Gandak and Ganga	--do--	FR completed (Indian portion)
4.	Ghaghra-Yamuna link	Ghaghra and Yamuna	--do--	FR completed (Indian portion)
5.	Sarda-Yamuna link	Sarda and Yamuna	NEPAL&INDIA (Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Haryana And Rajasthan)	FR completed (Indian portion)
6.	Yamuna-Rajasthan link	Yamuna and Sukri	Gujarat, Rajasthan, Haryana and UttarPradesh	FR completed
7.	Rajasthan-Sabarmati link	Sabarmati	--do--	FR completed
8.	Chunar-Sone Barrage link	Ganga and Sone	Bihar and Uttar Pradesh	FR completed
9.	Sone Dam – Southern Tributaries of Ganga link	Sone and Badua	Bihar and Jharkhand	PFR completed
10.	Ganga (Farakka)-Damodar-Subernarekha link	Ganga, Damodar and Subernarekha	West Bengal,Odisha and Jharkhand	FR completed
11.	Subernarekha-Mahanadi link	Subernarekha and Mahanadi	West Bengal and Odisha	FR completed
12.	Kosi-Mechi Link	Kosi and Mechi	NEPAL & INDIA (Bihar and West Bengal)	PFR completed
13.	Ganga (Farakka)-Sunderbans link	Ganga and Ichhamati	West Bengal	FR completed
14.	Joghghopa-Tista-Farakka link (Alternative to M-S-T-G)	Manas,Tista and Ganga	Assam, Bihar and West Bengal	PFR completed (Dropped)

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

**ANNEXURE-II**

**ANNEXURES REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 258 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 08.12.2022 REGARDING “INTER-LINKING OF RIVERS”.**

**The benefits and present status of the links three link projects under NPP viz; Yamuna-Rajasthan link, Rajasthan-Sabarmati link and Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal link:-**

Sl. No	Name of the link	States benefitted	Annual Irrigation (Lakh ha)	Domestic & Industrial supply (MCM)	Present Status
1.	Parbati - Kalisindh- - Chambal link	Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan	*Alt.I: 2.30 Alt.II: 2.20	- 13.2	FR Completed.
2.	Yamuna-Rajasthan link	Haryana and Rajasthan	2.51 (0.11+ 2.40 )	30	FR completed
3.	Rajasthan-Sabarmati link	Rajasthan and Gujarat	11.53 (11.21+0.32)	102	FR completed

\* Alt I- Linking with Gandhisagar Dam, Alt. II- Linking with Rana Pratapsagar Dam

**ANNEXURE-III**

**ANNEXURES REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 258 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 08.12.2022 REGARDING “INTER-LINKING OF RIVERS”.**

**The benefits and present status of the links benefitting Madhya Pradesh under NPP viz: Ken-Betwa link and Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal link:**

Sl.No	Name of the link	States benefitted	Annual Irrigation (Lakh ha)	Domestic & Industrial supply (MCM)	Present Status
1.	Parbati -Kalisindh- - Chambal link	Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan	*Alt.I: 2.30 Alt.II: 2.20	13.2	FR Completed.
2.	Ken-Betwa link	Uttar Pradesh & Madhya Pradesh	10.62 (2.51 +8.11)	194	DPR completed and implementation initiated.

\* Alt I- Linking with Gandhisagar Dam, Alt. II- Linking with Rana Pratapsagar Dam

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