

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

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †2613**

ANSWERED ON 16.03.2023

**FEATURES OF INTER-LINKING OF RIVERS**

†2613.      SHRIMATI KESHARI DEVI PATEL      SHRIMATI JASKAUR MEENA

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

- (a) the salient features of the ambitious interlinking of river project;
- (b) the details of the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard so far;
- (c) the current status of the said ambitious project;
- (d) whether the said project is a boon for most of the districts of North India which are in the grip of drought; and
- (e) if so, the details of the steps being taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government to start the said project at the earliest?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI**

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

**(a)** The National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Water Resources Development was formulated by the Government of India in 1980. The NPP comprises of two components, viz; Peninsular Rivers Development Component and Himalayan Rivers Development Component. Salient features of the two components are given at **Annexure-I**.

**(b) & (c)** Under the two components of NPP, a total of 30 link projects have been identified; 14 link projects under Himalayan Rivers Development Component and 16 link projects under Peninsular Rivers Development Component. National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has been entrusted with the work of Interlinking of Rivers under the NPP. Out of 30 identified link projects under the NPP, Pre-Feasibility Reports (PFRs) of all the 30 links have been completed, while Feasibility Reports (FRs) of 24 links and Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of 8 links have also been completed.

The Ken-Betwa Link project (KBLP) is the first link under the NPP for which implementation has been initiated. The Government of India approved the implementation of the project in December, 2021 with an estimated cost of ₹ 44,605 crore (year 2020-21 price level) with a Central Support of ₹ 39,317

crore through a Special Purpose Vehicle, viz; Ken-Betwa Link Project Authority (KBLPA). The current status of Inter-linking of river projects is given at **Annexure-II**.

(d) Under the NPP, link projects cover many districts of North India which are in the grip of drought. The KBLP will benefit the Bundelkhand region of Madhya Pradesh (MP) and Uttar Pradesh (UP), which faces recurrent drought situation. The project will provide annual irrigation to an area of 10.62 lakh hectare (8.11 lakh hectare in MP and 2.51 lakh hectare in UP) in the Chhattarpur, Tikamgarh, Panna, Sagar, Damoh and Datia districts of Madhya Pradesh and Banda, Mahoba, Jhansi and Lalitpur districts of Uttar Pradesh in Bundelkhand region as well as to the Vidisha, Shivpuri and Raisen districts of Madhya Pradesh. The project will also provide 194 Million Cubic Metre (MCM) of water for enroute drinking water supply to a population of 62 lakh (41 lakh in MP and 21 lakh in UP) and generate 130 Megawatt (MW) of power (103 MW of hydro power and 27 MW of solar power).

(e) The Government has made vigorous efforts by pursuing the inter-linking of rivers (ILR) program in a consultative manner and has accorded it top priority. DPRs of link projects, upon completion, have been shared with the concerned States and efforts made at various levels for the States to reach a consensus. A “Special Committee on Interlinking of Rivers (SCILR)” has been constituted in September, 2014 for the implementation of ILR programme. The implementation of the ILR link projects depends upon the concerned States to reach a consensus on related issues.

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**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2613 ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 16.03.2023 REGARDING “FEATURES OF INTER-LINKING OF RIVERS”.**

**Peninsular Rivers Development Component:** The scheme is divided into four major parts:

- I. Interlinking of Mahanadi-Godavari-Krishna-Pennar-Cauvery rivers and building storages at potential sites in these basins. This part involves interlinking of the major river systems where surplus from the Mahanadi and the Godavari are intended to be transferred to the needy areas in the south, through Krishna, Pennar and Cauvery rivers.
- II. Interlinking of west flowing rivers, north of Bombay and south of Tapi : The scheme provides for taking water supply canal to the metropolitan areas of Mumbai; it also provides irrigation in the coastal areas in Maharashtra.
- III. Interlinking of Ken-Chambal: The scheme provides for a water grid for Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh and interlinking canal backed by as many storages as possible.
- IV. Diversion of other west flowing rivers : The high rainfall on the western side of the "Western Ghats" runs down into numerous streams which discharge into the Arabian Sea. The construction of an interlinking canal system backed up by adequate storages could be planned to meet requirements of new areas on the western side as also for transfer of some waters towards east to meet the needs of drought affected areas.

**Himalayan Rivers Development Component:** The Himalayan Rivers Development Component envisages construction of storages on the principal tributaries of Ganga and the Brahmaputra in India, Nepal and Bhutan along with interlinking canal systems to transfer surplus flows of the eastern tributaries of the Ganga to the West, apart from linking of the main Brahmaputra and its tributaries with the Ganga and Ganga with Mahanadi and further south.

**ANNEXURE-II**

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) & (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2613 ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 16.03.2023 REGARDING “FEATURES OF INTER-LINKING OF RIVERS”.**

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

<b>S. No</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Rivers</b>	<b>States concerned</b>	<b>Status</b>
<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 Completed. Implementation initiated.

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)	Modified Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal link (duly integrated with ERCP)	Parbati, Kuno, Kalisindh, Chambal, Mej and Banas	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	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.

**\$ Integration of Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project of Rajasthan and Parbati – Kalisindh – Chambal link.**

<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	Draft 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.	Jogighopa-Tista-Farakka link (Alternative to M-S- T-G)	Manas,Tista and Ganga	Assam, Bihar andWest Bengal	Dropped

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

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