

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 673**

ANSWERED ON 25.07.2024

**INTER-LINKING OF RIVERS IN BIHAR**

†673. SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to formulate any special scheme for interlinking of rivers in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any shortcomings have been identified in the schemes, implemented earlier and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that Bihar has to face the havoc of devastating flood every year due to the water released into the rivers from the upper catchment area;
- (d) if so, the details of the rivers being proposed to be inter-linked under the riverlinking project; and
- (e) the time stipulated for completion of the said project?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI**

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) The Government of India has formulated a National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Inter-linking of Rivers (ILR) for transferring water from surplus basins to deficit basins/areas in 1980. National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has identified 30 links (16 under Peninsular Component and 14 under Himalayan Component) under the NPP, out of which, Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of 11 link projects, Feasibility Reports (FRs) of 24 link projects and Pre-Feasibility Reports (PFRs) of all the 30 link projects have been completed.

The Ken-Betwa Link Project (KBLP) is the first link under the NPP, implementation of which has been initiated after following the due consultative process between party States namely, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. In December, 2021, the Government of India approved for the implementation of this link project, with an estimated cost of Rs. 44,605 crore (year 2020-21 price level) and with a central support of Rs 39,317 crore, through a Special Purpose Vehicle, namely, the Ken-Betwa Link Project Authority (KBLPA). Details and current status of ILR projects under the NPP is given at **Annexure**.

(b) The biggest challenge in the way of implementation of the ILR projects is the consensus building amongst the party States. Donor States (with surplus in water resources), often do not agree to such surpluses, resulting into difficulties in having the necessary agreements with the donee States. Generally, the donee States agrees to the link proposals, but tend to put forth excess demand of water. Concerted

efforts are made by the Government of India at various levels to bring the party States to mutual understanding and consensus for implementation of the related ILR schemes.

(c) As per information provided by the Government of Bihar, the State is prone to frequent occurrence of floods, having flood prone area of 68.80 lakh hectare. Predominantly, the northern part of Bihar gets affected by floods every year due to heavy rainfall in the upper catchment areas, which mainly lie in Nepal.

(d) Under the NPP, the ILR projects envisaged to benefit the State of Bihar, include Kosi-Mechi link, Kosi-Ghaghra link, Chunar-Sone Barrage link, Sone Dam- Southern Tributaries of Ganga link and Manas-Sankosh-Tista-Ganga (M-S-T-G) link. Details of these ILR projects are, *inter alia*, contained in the **Annexure**.

(e) Stipulation of time for completion of the ILR projects comes into picture after the party States arrive at a consensus for their implementation. It is for the party States to arrive at a consensus for implementation of the above link projects.

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**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 673 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 25.07.2024 REGARDING “INTER-LINKING OF RIVERS IN BIHAR”.**

**Details and Current 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) & Odisha	FR completed
	b. Alternate Mahanadi (Barmul) - Rushikulya – Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) link	AP & 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 & 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 (Srisailam) – Pennar link	AP	Draft DPR completed
7	Krishna (Almatti) – Pennar link	AP & Karnataka	Draft DPR completed
8	a. Pennar (Somasila) - Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link	AP, Tamil Nadu & Puducherry	FR completed
	b. Alternate Pennar (Somasila) - Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link *	AP, Tamil Nadu & Puducherry	DPR completed
9	Cauvery (Kattalai) - Vaigai -Gundar link	Tamil Nadu	DPR completed
10	a. Parbati –Kalisindh - Chambal link	MP & Rajasthan	FR completed
	b) Modified Parbati – Kalisindh-Chambal link (duly integrated with ERCP)	MP & Rajasthan	Draft PFR completed
11	Damanganga - Pinjal link (As per DPR )	Maharashtra (only water supply to Mumbai)	DPR completed
12	Par-Tapi-Narmada link (As per DPR)	Gujarat & Maharashtra	DPR completed
13	Ken-Betwa link	Uttar Pradesh & Madhya Pradesh	DPR completed & project is under implementation
14	Pamba - Achankovil - Vaippar link	Tamil Nadu & 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 was 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 Govt. of Karnataka, no surplus water is available in Netravati basin for diversion through this link.

### Himalayan Component

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

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