

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4473

ANSWERED ON 27.03.2025

OBJECTION AGAINST INTERLINKING OF RIVERS

4473. ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH

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

- (a) the present status of the implementation of the project for interlinking of rivers;
- (b) whether the State Government of Kerala has raised concerns and objection against interlinking of rivers in the State and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government has received any communication from the State Government of Kerala in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) In 1980, the Government of India formulated a National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Inter-linking of Rivers (ILR) for transferring water from surplus basins to deficit basins/areas. National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has been entrusted with the work of ILR under the NPP. 30 ILR projects have been identified under the NPP with two components, viz; Himalayan Component (14 projects) and Peninsular Component (16 projects). Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of 11 projects, Feasibility Reports (FRs) of 26 projects and Pre-Feasibility Report (PFRs) of all 30 ILR projects under the NPP have been completed. The Ken-Betwa Link Project (KBLP) is the first ILR project under the NPP, implementation of which has started. Detailed status of ILR Projects under the NPP is given at **Annexure**.

(b) to (d) NWDA had earlier prepared the FR of this link project and shared it with the States of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. The State Government of Kerala has raised concerns regarding the Pamba-Achankovil-Vaippar (PAV) link project, vide a communication dated 12.12.2023, stating that the Pamba and Achankovil are intra-State rivers of Kerala and the State Government is not interested in pursuing the Pamba-Achankovil-Vaippar (PAV) link project. Government of India has been keenly pursuing the ILR programme across the country in a consultative mode. Accordingly, NWDA has communicated to the party States to take up the work of DPR of this link project with their mutual consent.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4473 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 27.03.2025 REGARDING “OBJECTION AGAINST INTERLINKING OF RIVERS”

DETAILED STATUS OF ILR PROJECTS UNDER THE NPP AND THEIR BENEFITS

Peninsular Component

| Sl.No | Name | States benefited | Status |
|-------|--|---|--|
| 1 | Mahanadi (Manibhadra) - Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) link | Andhra Pradesh (AP) and Odisha | FR completed |
| | Alternate Mahanadi (Barmul) - Rushikulya - Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) link | AP and 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 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 (Srisailam) – Pennar link | AP | Draft DPR completed |
| 7 | Krishna (Almatti) – Pennar link | Karnataka | Draft DPR completed |
| | | AP | |
| 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 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 | Draft PFR completed |
| 11 | Damanganga - Pinjal link | Maharashtra (only water supply to Mumbai) | DPR completed |
| 12 | Par-Tapi-Narmada link | Gujarat | DPR completed |
| | | Maharashtra | |
| 13 | Ken-Betwa link | Uttar Pradesh (UP) and Madhya Pradesh | DPR completed & implementation started |
| 14 | Pamba - Achankovil - Vaippar link | Tamil Nadu | FR completed |
| | | Kerala | |
| 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 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.

@ Godavari (Polavaram)- Krishna (Vijayawada) Link- the project has been taken up by Government of AP.

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

** 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 / 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 | Draft 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 |
