

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4547

ANSWERED ON 27.03.2025

LINKING OF RIVERS IN MAHARASHTRA

4547. SHRI ANIL YESHWANT DESAI

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government is working on linking of various rivers to regulate water distribution in order to save the countrymen from flood and famine in various parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the major rivers that are scheduled to be linked with each other in the country, State-wise, particularly in Maharashtra;
- (c) whether there is any timeline scheduled to complete this mega task and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of the funds allocated for the same including that from the World Bank?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) to (c) The Government of India formulated a National Perspective Plan (NPP) in the year 1980. The National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has been entrusted with the work of Interlinking of Rivers (ILR) under the NPP. These link projects under the NPP have been planned judiciously and are envisaged to provide for storage and transfer of water from the water-surplus basins to the water-deficit basins/ regions to minimize the miseries brought by droughts and also to mitigate the ravages of annually recurring floods.

Under the NPP, 30 link projects have been identified, 16 link projects under the Peninsular component and 14 link projects under the Himalayan component. Out of these 30 link projects, Pre-Feasibility Reports (PFRs) of all the 30 link projects, Feasibility Reports (FRs) of 26 link projects and Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of 11 link projects have been completed. The details and present status of the all link projects, including those benefiting the State of Maharashtra and also indicating therein the major rivers to be linked through the respective link projects, are given at **Annexure-I**.

Five projects have been identified as the Priority link projects, viz; Ken-Betwa Link Project (KBLP), Godavari- Cauvery (GC) Link [comprising 3 links, namely, Godavari (Inchampalli)-Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) link, Krishna (Nagarjunasagar)-Pennar (Somasila) link and Pennar (Somasila)-Cauvery link] and the modified Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal Link Project.

The Government of India is keenly pursuing the ILR programme in a consultative manner and has accorded top priority to it. Concerted efforts at various levels have been made to build necessary consensus amongst the party States, for implementation of various ILR projects. A “Special Committee on Inter-

linking of Rivers” has been constituted in September, 2014 for the implementation of ILR programme. 21 meetings of the Special Committee have been held so far. Further, a Task Force for Inter-linking of Rivers has been constituted in April, 2015 for expediting the works under the ILR programme and 18 meetings of this Task Force have been held so far. States have wide representation and active participation in these meetings.

The KBLP is the first and only inter linking river project under the NPP, of which the implementation has already started. Subsequent to the party States arriving at a consensus and signing a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) for implementation of this link project, the Union Cabinet approved the proposal, in December, 2021, for implementation of the project at an estimated cost of Rs. 44,605 crore, with a Central Support of Rs. 39,317 crore. The project is scheduled to be completed by March, 2030.

For other ILR projects under the NPP, the schedule of completion cannot be deduced as this depends upon the party States arriving at a consensus for their respective link projects and signing the link specific MoAs for their implementation.

(d) Details of Budget Allocation by the Government of India for the KBLP, implementation of which started after approval by the Union Cabinet in December, 2021, is given at **Annexure-II**. No funding from the World Bank is there for the ILR projects.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4547 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 27.03.2025 REGARDING “LINKING OF RIVERS IN MAHARASHTRA”

Details and Current Status of ILR projects under the NPP

Peninsular Components

Sl. No	Name	States benefited	Status	Major rivers
1	a. Mahanadi (Manibhadra) - Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) link	Andhra Pradesh (AP) and Odisha	FR completed	Mahanadi and Godavari
	b. Alternate Mahanadi (Barmul) – Rushikulya – Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) link	AP and Odisha	FR completed	Mahanadi and Godavari
2	Godavari (Polavaram) - Krishna (Vijayawada) link @	AP	FR completed	Godavari and Krishna
3	a. Godavari (Inchampalli) - Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) link	Telangana	FR completed	Godavari and Krishna
	b. Alternate Godavari (Inchampalli) - Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) link *	Telangana	DPR completed	Godavari and Krishna
4	Godavari (Inchampalli/SSMPP) - Krishna (Pulichintala) link	Telangana and AP	DPR completed	Godavari and Krishna
5	a. Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) - Pennar (Somasila) link	AP	FR completed	Krishna and Pennar
	b. Alternate Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) - Pennar (Somasila) link *	AP	DPR completed	Krishna and Pennar
6	Krishna (Srisailam) – Pennar link	AP	Draft DPR completed	Krishna and Pennar
7	Krishna (Almatti) – Pennar link	AP and Karnataka	Draft DPR completed	Krishna and Pennar
8	a. Pennar (Somasila) - Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link	AP, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry	FR completed	Pennar, Palar and Cauvery
	b. Alternate Pennar (Somasila) - Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link *	AP, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry	DPR completed	Pennar, Palar and Cauvery
9	Cauvery (Kattalai) - Vaigai -Gundar link	Tamil Nadu	DPR completed	Cauvery, Vaigai and Gundar
10	a. Parbati –Kalisindh - Chambal link	Madhya Pradesh (MP) and Rajasthan	FR completed	Parbati, Kalisindh and Chambal
	b. Modified Parbati – Kalisindh-Chambal link (duly integrated with ERCP)	MP and Rajasthan	Draft PFR completed	Parbati, Kalisindh, Chambal, Kul, Banas, Mej, Kuno, Chamla, Shipra, Lakhunder and Newaj
11	Damanganga - Pinjal link	Maharashtra	DPR completed	Damanganga, Pinjal
12	Par-Tapi-Narmada link	Gujarat and Maharashtra	DPR completed	Par, Tapi and Narmada
13	Ken-Betwa link	Uttar Pradesh (UP) and MP	DPR completed & project is under implementation	Ken and Betwa

14	Pamba - Achankovil - Vaippar link	Tamil Nadu and Kerala	FR completed	Pamba, Achankovil and Vaippar
15	Bedti - Varda link @@	Karnataka	DPR completed	Bedti and Varda
16	Netravati – Hemavati link**	Karnataka	PFR completed	Netravati and Hemavati

* 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.

@ Godavari (Polavaram) – Krishna (Vijayawada) link – The project has been taken up by Government of Andhra Pradesh.

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

Himalayan Component

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

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Budget allocated for KBLP

Year	Budget allocated (in crore)
2021-22	4644.46
2022-23	1400
2023-24	3500
2024-25	4000
2025-26	2400
