

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

LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. *171

ANSWERED ON 31.07.2025

INTER-LINKING OF RIVERS

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SHRI BHUMARE SANDIPANRAO ASARAM

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

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to inter-link the rivers to address water shortage and improve irrigation in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and the Union Territory of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the estimated cost likely to be incurred and the timeline fixed for the implementation of the projects thereunder in the said States/UTs, project-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to address environmental and social concerns related to the said projects, if any, in the said States/UTs?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI C R PAATIL)

(a) to (d) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. *171 TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.07.2025 IN LOK SABHA REGARDING “INTER-LINKING OF RIVERS”

(a) & (b) The Government of India has formulated the National Perspective Plan (NPP), under which 30 Interlinking of Rivers (ILR) projects have been identified to address water scarcity and augment irrigation facilities across the country. The National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has been entrusted with implementing the ILR projects under the NPP.

There are three Interlinking of Rivers (ILR) projects benefiting the State of Maharashtra, and two ILR projects benefiting the State of Madhya Pradesh. The details of ILR projects benefiting Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh are provided at **Annexure**. There is no River Interlinking project that serves Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu.

In addition to above, NWDA has received proposals to study 20 intrastate River linking projects in the state of Maharashtra. Prefeasibility reports have been prepared and submitted by NWDA. Further, the Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of 3 intrastate link proposals viz; Wainganga (Goshikurd) – Nalganga (Purna Tapi), Damanganga (Ekdare) – Godavari Valley and Damanganga-Vaitarna-Godavari link project, have been prepared and submitted by NWDA to the Government of Maharashtra.

(c) Ken – Betwa Link Project (KBLP) is the only project of NPP under implementation with an estimated cost of Rs. 44,605 crores. The project is planned to be completed in span of 8 years by March 2030.

(d) To address environmental and social concerns of the River Interlinking Projects, the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is done. In case of Ken - Betwa Link Project, An Integrated Landscape Management Plan (ILMP) has been prepared to improve habitat quality, maintain critical wildlife corridors linking adjacent Protected Areas (PAs), and to enable the holistic protection and management of flagship species—including tigers, vultures, and gharials—as well as promote biodiversity conservation within Panna Tiger Reserve (PTR) and its surrounding ecologically sensitive zones. To ensure systematic and time-bound implementation of the ILMP, a Greater Panna Landscape Council (GPLC) has been constituted under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, Government of Madhya Pradesh.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *171 TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.07.2025 REGARDING “INTER-LINKING OF RIVERS”

Status and benefits of ILR projects benefiting Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh

Sl. No	Name	States benefited	Annual Irrigation (Lakh ha)	Domestic & Industrial (MCM)	Status
Maharashtra					
1	Damanganga - Pinjal link	Maharashtra (only water supply to Mumbai)	--	895	DPR completed
2	Par-Tapi-Narmada link	Gujarat	2.28	76	DPR completed
		Maharashtra	0.04	--	
3	Godavari (Polavaram) - Krishna (Vijayawada) link	Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Telangana	1.94	33.41	FR Completed
Madhya Pradesh					
1	Modified Parbati – Kalisindh-Chambal link (duly integrated with ERCP)	Madhya Pradesh (MP) and Rajasthan	3.38 (as per draft PFR) MP – 2.58 Rajasthan- 0.8	As per draft PFR: Rajasthan-Domestic-1723 MCM Industrial-286 MCM MP-Domestic-36 MCM	Draft Pre Feasibility Report (PFR) completed
2	Ken-Betwa link	Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh	10.62 (2.51 +8.11)	194	DPR completed & implementation has been started
