

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1145

ANSWERED ON 05.02.2026

SCHEME FOR INTERLINKING OF RIVERS

†1145. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA:

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

- (a) the current status of the scheme for interlinking of rivers;
- (b) whether several interlinking of rivers projects are running behind their scheduled time-limit and if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of the meetings held so far of the High-Powered Committee constituted on the order of the Supreme Court for the planning and implementation of interlinking of rivers;
- (d) whether the said Committee has conducted any study regarding the feasibility of this project and the assessment of its impacts on environment, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government on the various Detailed Project Reports prepared with regard to the river interlinking projects?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) & (b) Under the National Perspective Plan (NPP), the National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has completed the Pre-Feasibility Reports for all 30 identified link projects, Feasibility Reports (FRs) for 26 links, and Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for 13 links.

The progress and implementation of Interlinking of Rivers (ILR) projects depend upon inter-State consensus, as well as several factors such as demands for enhanced water allocations by recipient States, and complex technical, environmental, and rehabilitation issues. These aspects collectively influence the overall progress of ILR projects.

Further, works under the Ken-Betwa Link Project have commenced, with completion targeted for March 2030. The consolidated status of all link projects is placed at **Annexure**.

(c) & (d) In compliance with the directions of the Supreme Court, a Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers (SCILR) was constituted on 23.09.2014 to review and facilitate planning and implementation of the ILR Programme. A total of twenty-four meetings of the Committee have been held so far.

For ILR projects, a structured process is followed, beginning with Pre-Feasibility Studies, the preparation of FR and DPRs, supported by detailed surveys, investigations, and technical analyses. An Environmental Impact Assessment is undertaken for each project.

(e) For the preparation of DPRs, a Memorandum of Understanding is signed among the concerned States. After preparation, the DPR is circulated to the party States for their views and is finalized after incorporating their suitable suggestions. A project is taken forward for implementation only after consensus is achieved among the States and a Memorandum of Agreement for implementation is signed by them.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1145 ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 05.02.2026 REGARDING “SCHEME FOR INTER-LINKING OF RIVERS”.

Details and current status of ILR projects under the NPP

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, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Telangana	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	DPR Completed
7	Krishna (Almatti) – Pennar link	Karnataka & AP	DPR completed
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 and Puducherry	DPR completed
9	Cauvery (Kattalai) - Vaigai -Gundar link	Tamil Nadu	DPR completed
10	Parbati –Kalisindh - Chambal link	Madhya Pradesh (MP) and Rajasthan	FR completed
	b) Modified Parbati – Kalisindh-Chambal link	MP and Rajasthan	MoA for implementation has been signed by both the States
11	Damanganga - Pinjal link	Maharashtra (only water supply to Mumbai)	DPR completed and dropped from status of “priority links”
12	Par-Tapi-Narmada link	Gujarat and Maharashtra	DPR completed and dropped from status of “priority links”
13	Ken-Betwa link	Uttar Pradesh (UP) and MP	DPR completed and project is under implementation
14	Pamba - Achankovil - Vaippar link	Tamil Nadu and 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, Phase-I of Project to divert unutilized waters of Godavari river, Study was carried out and DPR of Godavari (Inchampalli) – Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) - Pennar (Somasila) – Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link projects (combined) called as Godavari-Cauvery link was completed. The report has further been updated terminating the link canal at Manimukhtanadi, a Tributary of Vellar river flowing adjacent to Cauvery basin.

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

@ Godavari (Polavaram) - Krishna (Vijayawada) Link- the project has been taken up by Govt. of Andhra Pradesh and is under execution by Polavaram Project Authority.

*** Netravati – Hemavati link: Further studies not taken up after PFR preparation 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, Uttar Pradesh (UP) and Nepal	FR completed
3.	Gandak - Ganga link	UP and Nepal	FR completed
4.	Ghaghra - Yamuna link	UP and Nepal	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	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 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

Out of 30 link projects, 4 FRs are not required to be prepared:

**Kosi-Mechi Inter State link - PFR prepared and proposal was dropped due to international issues, subsequently, on request of Govt. of Bihar, NWDA has taken up Kosi-Mechi Intra State link project.

Jogighopa-Tista-Farakka link - PFR prepared and proposal dropped

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

Netravati – Hemavati link - Further studies after PFR preparation, are not taken up since after implementation of Yettinahole project by Govt. of Karnataka, as no surplus water is available in Netravati basin for diversion through this link.
