

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2055  
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2003  
DIVERSION OF RIVERS WATER  
RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the level of Ganga river is about 200 feet high from the sea level;
- (b) if so, whether the height of Bindhyanchal mountain range from sea level is 2000 feet; and
- (c) if so, the quantum of surplus water from the Brahmaputra and Ganga rivers basins proposed to be diverted across the Bindhyanchal mountain range to the Cauvery basin and the cost likely to be involved therein?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

- (a) The Ganga rises in Himalayas and flows through Indo- Gangetic plains and joins Bay of Bengal. The mean elevation of Himalayan ranges is 6000 meters above mean sea level. The surface of Indo-Gangetic plain is at tide level near the mouth of Ganga but is well over 200 meter above mean sea level in Punjab plains.
- (b) The average elevation of Vindhya range is about 300 meter.
- (c) Under the National Perspective Plan for Water Resources Development prepared by the Government and further studied by National Water Development Agency (NWDA), inter-linking of Ganga and Cauvery across Vindhyanchal mountain range is not envisaged. However, the interlinking of tributaries of Brahmaputra with Ganga at Farakka and further with Damodar, Subarnrekha, Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna and Cauvery is envisaged. The proposed links are at the feasibility stage level.