

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:63

ANSWERED ON:28.11.2005

INTER- LINKING OF RIVERS

Budholiya Shri Rajnarayan;Yadav Shri Sita Ram

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

(a) the progress made in the inter-linking of rivers in the country;

(b) whether the Government proposes to merge the Ken-Betwa river flowing in Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh and some other rivers flowing in Southern parts of the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Union Government has signed or proposes to sign any agreement with State Governments to carry out the work of inter-linking of rivers;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the expenditure to be incurred and the time involved in linking of rivers;

(g) whether the Government proposes to bear cent per cent cost involved in the project;

(h) whether there is any threat of flood on account of linking of rivers in some districts/States; and

(i) if so, the preventive measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR HEAVY INDUSTRIES, PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV)

(a) to (i) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO

(i) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. 63 TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.11.2005 IN LOK SABHA REGARDING INTER-LINKING OF RIVERS.

(a) The Ministry of Water Resources (MOWR) (erstwhile Ministry of Irrigation) and Central Water Commission (CWC) formulated a National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Water Resources Development in 1980 envisaging interbasin transfer of water from surplus basins to deficit basins/areas which comprises of two components, namely, Himalayan Rivers Development Component and Peninsular Rivers Development Component. National Water Development Agency (NWDA) was set up under the MOWR in 1982 for carrying out various technical studies to establish the feasibility of the proposals of NPP and to give concrete shape to it. Based on various studies conducted, NWDA has identified 30 links for preparing Feasibility Reports (FRs). NWDA has completed feasibility reports for 14 links under Peninsular Rivers Development Component and two links under Himalayan Rivers Development Component.

(b) & (c) Under the Peninsular Component of National Perspective Plan, interlinking of Ken-Betwa and 15 other links are planned. Name of the links is at Annexure.

(d)&(e) The Government has identified five priority links namely Ken-Betwa, Parbati-Kalisingh-Chambal, Godavari (Polavaram)-Krishna (Vijaywada), Damanganga-Pinjal and Par-Tapi- Narmada links under the Peninsular Component of National Perspective Plan for building consensus among the concerned States and taking up the preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPR) of such links. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in respect of taking up of preparations of DPR for Ken- Betwa link by the Central Government was signed on 25th August, 2005 between the Central Government and the State Governments of Uttar Pradesh & Madhya Pradesh.

(f) As per the preliminary estimate, the Interlinking of Rivers (ILR) programme is estimated to cost about Rs. 5,60,000 crores at 2002 price level. However, the realistic cost can be estimated only after completion of DPRs of all the constituent link projects. The time for implementation of ILR programme depends upon the consensus & cooperation of the States.

(g) No such decision has been taken by the Government.

(h) & (i) NO threat of flood is anticipated due to linking rivers. On the contrary, the ILR programme envisages creation and integration of various storages, which help moderation of flood to some extent as incidental benefit.

LIST OF WATER TRANSFER LINKS IDENTIFIED FOR PREPARATION OF FEASIBILITY REPORT UNDER PENINSULAR RIVERS DEVELOPMENT COMPONENT BY NWDA

1. Mahanadi (Manibhadra)- Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) link
2. Godavari (Polavaram)-Krishna (Vijayawada) link
3. Godavari (Inchampalli Low Dam)-Lrosjma (Nagarkimasagar Tail Pond ) link
4. Godavari (Inchampalli)-Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) link
5. Krishna (Nagarjunasagar)-Pennar (Somasila) link
6. Krishna (Srisailam)-Pennar link
7. Krishna (Almatti)-Pennar link
8. Pennar (Somasila)-CAuvery (Grand Anicut ) link
9. Cauvery (Kattalai)-Vaigai (Gundar) link
10. Parbati-Kalisindh- Chambal link
11. Damanganga-Pinjal link
12. par-tapi-Narmada link
13. Ken-Betwa link
14. Pamba-Achankovil-Vaippar link
15. Netravati-Hemavati Link
16. Bedti-Varda link