

(a) whether it is a fact that a plenty of unutilised waters of Pamba and Idukki Rivers of Kerala is flowing into Arabian Sea;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to divert this unutilised water towards South Tamil Nadu;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the proposal;

(e) whether the Union Government have taken any steps to implement this proposal; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) to (f). The National Water Development Agency (NWDA) of the Government of India has identified 17 Water Transfer links under the Peninsular component. Some of these links envisages transfer of West flowing rivers towards east to meet the water requirements of drought affected areas etc.

There are no Pamba & Idukki rivers in Kerala. However, NWDA has prepared a feasibility report of Pamba-Achankovil-Vaipper link which envisages dams on Pamba Kar Ar, Achankovil Kal Ar and Achankovil for diversion of water to irrigate land in drought prone districts of Tirunelveli, Kattabomman, Chidambaranar and Kamaraj districts of Tamil Nadu and generation of peaking power of 500 MW and regulated releases during lean period in Vembanand lake.

Implementation of the proposal will depend upon concurrence of the concerned State Governments and various other factors.

Percentage growth of people receiving higher Education

3920. DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of growth in the number of people receiving higher education in the last five years;

(b) the percentage of graduates in the country; and

(c) the measures, the Government are taking to enhance access of new entrants to higher education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) According to the information furnished by University Grants Commission

(UGC), the percentage of growth of total enrolment in higher education during the last 5 years is as under:

1990-91	7.0%
1991-92	6.9%
1992-93	5.1%
1993-94	5.1%
1994-95	5.1%

(b) In 1994-95, 88% of the total enrolment of students in the higher education system was at the under-graduate level.

(c) According to UGC, at present, there is no problem regarding absorption of entrants in the higher education system.

Expenditure on National Highways

3921. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure incurred on reconstruction and recarpeting of National Highways in each State during the period 1.4.95 and 30.6.96; and

(b) the extent to which the expenditure is likely to be incurred for the said purpose particularly in respect of West Bengal and other North Eastern States till 31.3.97 and in 1997-98?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) A *Statement* is annexed.

(b) Demands for Grants are yet to be finalised. Therefore, it is difficult to give the details.

STATEMENT

Expenditure on National Highways

No. State/UTs	(Rs. in lakhs)	
	1995-96 Allotment	1996-97 (up to July) Allotment
1. Andhra Pradesh	4010.00	536.00
2. Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00
3. Assam	1650.00	425.00
4. Bihar	1750.00	400.00
5. Chandigarh	25.00	6.00
6. Delhi	400.00	100.00