

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4879
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2000
LINKING OF RIVERS
M. CHINNASAMY

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to link the river Ganga and Cauvery;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the rivers are likely to be inter- linked?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES

(SMT. BJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) to (c) the erstwhile Ministry of Irrigation (now Ministry of Water Resources) and Central Water Commission have formulated a National Perspective Plan for water Resources Development which envisages inter linkages between various Peninsular rivers, including Cauvery, and Himalayan rivers, including Ganga, for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins for optimum utilisation of water resources. The National Perspective Plan comprises two main components viz (a) Himalayan Rivers Development, and

(b) Peninsular Rivers Development and envisages additional irrigation benefit of 35 million hectare. The Government of India has established National Water Development Agency as an Autonomous Society in July, 1982 to carry out the water balance and other studies to Plan and to prepare feasibility reports of Links. Implementation of such water transfer link proposals depend on availability of funds and how soon the detailed project reports are prepared by the concerned States and consensus is reached among the cobasin States.