

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3614

ANSWERED ON:10.09.2007

INTERLINKING OF RIVERS

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Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of the National River Interlinking Project in the country;
- (b) the progress of different phases of this project, location-wise, phase-wise and cost-wise;
- (c) the details of rivers included in this project, phase-wise; and
- (d) the reasons for slow pace of the works under this project?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(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 inter-basin 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 (16 under Peninsular Component & 14 under Himalayan Component) for preparation of Feasibility Reports (FRs). Out of these, FRs of 14 links under Peninsular Component and 2 links (Indian Portion) under Himalayan Component have already been completed. Further, Central Government entrusted the work of preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) of one of the links Viz Ken-Betwa link under Peninsular Component to NWDA.

(b)&(c) The progress of works of various links under Peninsular Component and Himalayan Component indicating the rivers and states concerned is given at Annexure-I & II. As per preliminary estimate, Interlinking of Rivers (ILR) programme is estimated to cost about Rs. 5,60,000 crores at 2002 price level. At present no Interlinking project is under implementation.

The total expenditure on various studies for firming up Inter Basin Water Transfer link proposals up to FR level and also for preparation of DPR of Ken-Betwa link up to 31st March 2007 was Rs 201.19 crores.

(d) The implementation of inter basin water transfer proposals depends on the consensus and cooperation of the concerned States and agreements with the neighboring countries.