

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1742

ANSWERED ON:07.03.2011

INTER LINKING OF RIVERS PROJECTS

Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan;Tomar Shri Narendra Singh

**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has insisted on a common Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report for inter-linked projects having multi-sectoral components to pre-empt companies and interlinking of rivers;
- (b) if so, whether there is a lot of resistance among companies and Industry experts about the feasibility of such proposal;
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the response of the States; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to resolve the issue?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

- (a) An Office Memorandum (OM) was issued by the Ministry of Environment and Forests on 24th December, 2010 relating to the procedure for consideration of Integrated and Inter-linked projects for grant of environmental clearance under the provisions of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006. Under this circular, the project proponents are required to prepare a common EIA Report covering all the sectors concerned. The inter-linking of rivers is outside the purview of this circular.
- (b) Ministry has not received any response opposing the circular referred to in the reply to part (a) above.
- (c) & (d) Does not arise in view of the reply to part (b) above.