

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:96
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2009
INTER- LINKING OF RIVERS
Meghe Shri Datta Raghobaji;Swaraj Smt. Sushma

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Detailed Project Report (DPR) for inter-linking of five peninsular rivers has been prepared;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds allocated for the said projects;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the action taken by the Government to start the work on the projects; and
- (e) the time by which the work on the projects is likely to be commenced?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. +96 TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.11.2009 IN LOK SABHA REGARDING INTER-LINKING OF RIVERS.

(a) to (c) The National Common Minimum Programme of the UPA Government approved in 2004 mentioned that it would make a comprehensive assessment of the feasibility of linking the rivers of the country starting with the south-bound rivers and this assessment would be done in a fully consultative manner. After a comprehensive assessment, it was decided that river linking programme be continued with a focus on peninsular rivers. Five links under Peninsular Component namely

(i) Ken-Betwa,

(ii) Parbati- Kalisindh-Chambal,

(iii) Damanganga-Pinjal,

(iv) Par-Tapi-Narmada &

(v) Godavari (Polavaram)-Krishna (Vijayawada) were identified as priority links for taking up their Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) on the basis of consensus among the concerned State Government. DPR of Ken-Betwa link has been completed on 31.12.2008. Ken-Betwa project has been included in the list of National projects and is eligible for 90% Central Assistance. Further, NWDA has taken up the preparation of DPRs of another two priority links namely Par –Tapi-Narmada and Damanganga –Pinjal which is planned to be completed by December, 2011. Godavari (Polavaram)- Krishna (Vijawada) link is part of the Polavaram project of the Andhra Pradesh. Planning Commission has given investment clearance to the Polavaram Project and the Government of Andhra Pradesh has taken up the construction of the project including link component as per their proposal. Further, the concerned states have not given concurrence to take up DPR of Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal link project.

(d) to (e) Preparation of DPR of river inter-linking project is taken up only after a consensus among the concerned State Governments. A consensus group under the Chairmanship of Chairman, Central Water Commission has been constituted for evolving consensus among the concerned State Governments for preparation of DPR of river inter-linking projects. Water being a State subject under the constitution of India, concerned State Governments take up the works of the river inter-linking projects after obtaining the techno-economic clearance from the Technical Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Water Resources and investment clearance from the Planning Commission.