

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2102

ANSWERED ON:06.12.2012

UTILISATION OF BRAHMAPUTRA WATER RESOURCES

Ajmal Shri Badruddin

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has chalked out any plan for utilisation of Brahmaputra water resources under river- linking project;
- (b) if so, the details thereof with fund allocation;
- (c) whether the Brahmaputra water near Jogigopha would be diverted to be mixed with the water of Ganga;
- (d) if so, the details and the benefits thereof;
- (e) whether the decision has been taken without consulting the people and the Government of Assam; and
- (f) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) Yes Madam, National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has two alternate proposals for diverting Brahmaputra Water to Ganga river namely 1) Manas-Sankosh-Tista-Ganga link 2) Jogighopa-Tista-Farakka link. The Preparation of feasibility report is under progress.

(b) The one link i.e. Manas-Sankosh-Tista-Ganga link canal envisages diversion of the surplus waters of Manas and Sankosh rivers (tributaries of Brahmaputra) with supplementation from the intermediate major streams for the benefit of augmenting the flows of Ganga at Farakka and further transfer to water short areas of Krishna, Pennar and Cauvery basins and providing irrigation facilities to the enroute command areas. This link comprises two dams on rivers Manas & Sankosh inside Bhutan territory, and a gravity flow canal for diverting substantial quantum of water to river Ganga upstream of Farakka barrage. This is presently at planning stage only.

(c) Yes Madam, NWDA is planning to transfer Brahmaputra water near Jogigopha as Jogighopa-Tista-Farakka Link Project. Jogighopa-Tista-Farakka Link Project is one of the alternative proposals to divert Brahmaputra water to Ganga at Farakka. This project is aimed at diverting flows of the river Brahmaputra from proposed Jogighopa barrage (Tamranga bil) and enroute rivers viz. Sankosh, Raidak, Torsa and Jaldhaka rivers, at their crossings to cater to the needs at Farakka barrage for preserving Calcutta Port, irrigation and salinity control in Sunderban area and further transfer of water to the southern rivers.

(d) Manas-Sankosh-Tista-Ganga link canal envisages to provide assured irrigation facilities to culturable command area of about 6.54 lakh ha in the States of Assam, West Bengal and Bihar (Assam-2.08, West Bengal-1.82 & Bihar-2.64 lakh ha) utilising 4,027 Mcum of water with transmission losses of 1,268 Mcum. There are 7 Nos. of canal falls in this link having a total drop of about 68m. This will be utilised for generation of hydro-electric power. The hydropower generated through these falls will have annual power generation of 718 MW with an installed capacity of 805 MW. Rest of the water will benefit areas south of Ganga.

(e) & (f) At present these links are in planning stage i.e. feasibility stage only. Hence consulting the people and Government of Assam has not been done.

Consent from the state will be taken up at the stage of Detailed Project Report level.