

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2295

ANSWERED ON:22.08.2013

INTERLINKING OF RIVERS

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**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:**

- (a) the present status of various projects, surveys, feasibility studies, etc. taken up under the interlinking of rivers in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether any works have been started after the completion of such surveys, feasibility studies etc. for intra State/inter-basin water links in various States including Bihar;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State/UTwise;
- (d) whether the NCAER report on inter-linking of rivers has been examined by the Government;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the response of the various State Governments in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER FOR WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) to (c) The Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR) (erstwhile Ministry of Irrigation) formulated a National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Water Resources Development in the year 1980 envisaging inter-basin transfer of water from surplus basins to deficit basins/areas, which comprised of two components, namely, Himalayan Rivers Development Component and Peninsular Rivers Development Component. National Water Development Agency 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. NWDA has identified 30 links (16 under Peninsular Component & 14 under Himalayan Component for preparation of Feasibility Reports (FRs). Out of these, Feasibility Reports (FRs) of 14 links under Peninsular Component and FRs of 2 links (Indian portion) under Himalayan Component has been prepared. The present status State/U-Ts wise of links identified for preparation of feasibility reports is given at Annexure-I

After completion of such feasibility reports, Five Peninsular links namely

- (i) Ken – Betwa,
- (ii) Parbati – Kalisindh – Chambal,
- (iii) Damanganga – Pinjal,
- (iv) Par – Tapi – Narmada &
- (v) Godavari (Polavaram) - Krishna (Vijayawada) have been identified as priority links for preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) on the basis of Task Force report. The present status of the preparation of DRP is given at Table-1 below:

Table -1

Status of various Detailed Project Reports for Inter Basin Water Transfer Links of NPP

S. No. Name of link Rivers States concerned Completion year

A Proposals under National Perspective Plan

1	Ken-Betwa (Phase-I)	Ken & Betwa Madhya Pradesh	Uttar Pradesh,	DPR completed.
		Declared as National		Project.

Ken-Betwa # do # #do # 2013 Phase-II

2 Par-Tapi Par, Tapi Gujarat & 2014  
-Narmada & Narmada Maharashtra

3 Damanganga Damanganga Gujarat & 2014  
-Pinjal & Pinjal Maharashtra

4 Polavaram Godavari & Andhra Pradesh Project already -Vijayawada Krishna taken up by  
Govt. of AP under AIBP funding

5 Parbati - Parbati, Madhya Pradesh No date finalized.  
Kalisindh Kalisindh & and  
- Chambal Chambal Rajasthan

Intra-State Links identified by States from 2006 onwards.

To find out conceptual feasibility, certain States have entrusted preparation of Pre Feasibility/ Feasibility reports of intra-state links to National Water Development Agency (NWDA) in November, 2006. So far, 36 proposals of intra-state links from 7 States viz. Maharashtra, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Orissa, Bihar, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu received by NWDA. Out of these, Pre-Feasibility Reports (PFRs) of 27 intra-state links have been completed by NWDA up to March 2013. Detailed status is given at Annexure-II.

Preparation of Detailed Project Report of Intra State links proposed by States was included in the functions of National Water Development Agency in 2011. Status of Preparation of Detailed Project Reports of Intra-State Water Transfer Links in Consultation with State Governments are given below at Table-2

Table-2

S.No. Name of link Rivers States concerned Completion year

1 Burhi Gandak-None- Burhi Gandak & Bihar 2013  
Baya -Ganga link Ganga

2 Kosi-Mechi Link Kosi & Mechi Bihar 2014

3 Wainganga(Gosikurd) Wainganga & Maharashtra 2015  
- Nalganga Purna Tapi) Purna Tapi  
link

4 Ponnnyar-Palar link Ponnnyar-Palar Tamil Nadu 2015

(d) to (f) Yes Sir. The conclusions/recommendations given by NCAER in its report mention various benefits of Interlinking of river programme such as additional benefits of irrigation and power, increase in growth rate of agriculture, growth of direct & indirect employment, improvement in the quality of life of people in rural areas and mitigation of floods and drought etc. The study has been uploaded onweb site of National Water Development Agency i.e. [www.nwda.gov.in](http://www.nwda.gov.in).The NCAER report has mentioned about the various benefits of the Interlinking Projects as a whole and does not indicate its benefits State-wise. No comment has been received from any State Government.