

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:67

ANSWERED ON:27.11.2014

INTERLINKING OF RIVERS

Chaudhary Shri P.P.;Mahadik Shri Dhananjay Bhimrao

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) the details of the rivers that are proposed to be interlinked;
- (b) whether the Detailed Project Report (DPR) on the inter-linking of rivers has been prepared and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the works for inter-linking of rivers has been started and any time frame has been set for completion of the works;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, projectwise; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure that consensus is arrived at among the States to ensure completion of work within laid down time limit?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SUSHRI UMA BHARTI)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 67 TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.11.2014 REGARDING INTER-LINKING OF RIVERS

(a) & (b) The Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR) has 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. National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has identified 30 links under the NPP. Detail of the river links identified under NPP are given at Annexure. Based on the concurrence of the concerned States, Detailed Project Reports (DPR) for Ken-Betwa Link, Damanganga - Pinjal links have been completed by NWDA. The DPR for Par-Tapi-Narmada link is under preparation.

In addition, out of 46 proposals of intra-state links received by NWDA from 9 States, the Burhi Gandak-Noon-Baya- Ganga Link of Bihar, Kosi-Mechi Link of Bihar, Ponnair- Palar Link of Tamil Nadu, Wainganga-Nalganga Link of Maharashtra and Barakar-Damodar-Subernarekha Link of Jharkhand have also been taken up for preparation of DPRs by the NWDA on the request made by the concerned States. The DPRs of two intra-state links i.e. Burhi Gandak- Noon-Baya-Ganga Link Project and Kosi-Mechi Link Project have been completed and sent to Government of Bihar in December, 2013 and March, 2014 respectively.

(c) to (e) The stage for implementation of interlinking of river projects has not yet been reached. The Government is pursuing the Interlinking of Rivers program in a consultative manner. Its implementation is dependent upon the consensus and co-operation of the concerned States and upon obtaining various mandatory clearances from Ministry/ Departments of Central and State Governments including Statutory clearances. The time limit for the completion of individual link project can be identified only after Detailed Project Reports are techno- economically approved. However, the Government has constituted a Consensus Group headed by the Chairman, Central Water Commission and Secretaries of Irrigation/Water Resource Departments of the concerned States for arriving at a consensus on the links for sharing of the surplus water and preparation of DPR by NWDA. In addition, the issues on the inter-State links are also regularly discussed during the meeting of Governing Body and Society of the NWDA.