

(c) the manpower and institutional break up finalized as well as additional power or autonomy granted to upgrade the board to an effective functional entity; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay and by when it is likely to be restructured?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) Proposal for restructuring of Brahmaputra Board by way of amendment of Brahmaputra Board Act, 1980 is being finalized in consultation with the concerned Central Government Ministries/Departments and the State Governments which is a time consuming process. After finalization of the proposal, a bill seeking amendment of the Act will be brought up before the Parliament. Subsequently, the amended Act will be notified in the official Gazette and the Board will be restructured accordingly. The restructuring of the Board will depend on the final passing of the Bill by the Parliament.

Water dispute of Mhadei river

852. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a Mhadei River water dispute between the State of Goa and the State of Karnataka;

(b) contentions in brief of both the States;

(c) steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether a delegation, led by the Chief Minister of Goa met the Prime Minister of India, recently; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (e) The Government of Karnataka in April, 2002 requested for clearance of proposal from inter-State angle for diversion of 7.56 TMC of water from Mahadayi basin to Malaprabha basin through implementation of Kalasa and Bhandurinalla schemes to meet the drinking water needs of Hubli/Dharwad cities. The Ministry of Water Resources (MOWR) gave and 'in principle' clearance to the proposal to meet the drinking water need of Hubli/Dharwad from water availability angle on 30th April, 2002. The Government of Goa in July, 2002 took strong exception to the grant of this clearance by the Ministry and requested for setting up of an Inter-State Water Disputes Tribunal under the Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956 for resolution of the dispute. In view of this, the 'in-principle' clearance grantee by the Ministry was placed 'in abeyance' in September, 2002 with a view to resolve the matter by an agreement between the two States, failing which by an award of the Tribunal. Later, a view emerged in the MOWR that the said dispute cannot be settled by Negotiations.

A delegation, led by the Chief Minister of Goa, met the Prime Minister of India on 7.1.2009 and submitted a memorandum to take immediate action to stop Karnataka from proceeding with construction of Disputed Projects for diversion of water from water deficient Mandovi (Mahadayi) basin to water surplus Malaprabha basin and constitute the tribunal immediately as per the request of Goa dated 09.07.2002.

Meanwhile, the Government of Goa filed a suit in the Supreme Court for setting up of Water Disputes Tribunal for adjudication of the above river water dispute and an Interlocutory Application (IA) for stay in construction activities by Karnataka in September 2006. The court in the hearing dated 30.4.2008 ordered that as per the statement made by the State of Karnataka in its counter affidavit filed on 27th September, 2006, the State of Karnataka will not actually utilize the waters or divert the waters under the Kalasa Bhanduri project till next date of hearing.

Interlinking of 30 rivers

†853.SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that National Water Development Agency has sanctioned the projects of interlinking of 30 rivers of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the time when this sanction was given;
- (c) whether the construction works on these sanctioned projects has started; and
- (d) if so, the river projects on which construction works have started and the total amount spent on these projects till December, 2008?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has identified 30 links (16 under Peninsular Component & 14 under Himalayan Component) for preparation of Feasibility Reports (FRs) under National Perspective Plan (NPP). The names of these links are given in the Statement (*See below*). Out of these, FRs of 14 links under Peninsular Component and of 2 links (Indian Portion) under Himalayan Component have been completed. Detailed Project Report (DPR) of one priority link namely Ken - Betwa has also been completed. Further, NWDA has taken up the DPRs of another two priority links namely Par - Tapi - Narmada & Damanganga - Pinjal which are planned to be completed by December, 2011.

At present, no interlinking project under NPP is under implementation. Their implementation depends upon the consensus and cooperation of the concerned states and agreement with the neighboring countries.

NWDA has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 244.84 crore upto December, 2008 for preparation of Pre-Feasibility Reports (PFRs)/FRs/DPRs of river link proposals under NPP, preparation of PFRs/FRs of intra State links and other studies in this regard.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.