

- (b) Yes, Sir.

#### **Interlinking of rivers**

597. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has passed a judgment on interlinking of rivers across the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has studied the environmental impact, enormous cost involved and possible disputes between riparian and non-riparian States of such a project;

(c) whether the States would have the freedom of choice not to join the project; and

(d) whether Government would seek the review of the Supreme Court judgment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) and (d) The Hon'ble supreme Court has disposed of Writ Petition (Civil) 512 of 2002 Networking of rivers, on 27.2.2012. However, certified copy of the Judgement of Hon'ble Supreme Court has so far not been received in Ministry of Water Resources.

(b) The Detailed Project Report (DPR) of river linking projects are prepared after the concurrence of the concerned States. The environmental and cost related aspects are examined while appraising the detailed report of the project for Technoeconomic approval.

(c) At present, the inter linking of rivers programme is being pursued in a consultative manner with the consensus and cooperation of the concerned states.

#### **Interlinking of rivers**

†598. SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would comply with the directions issued by the Supreme Court with regard to interlinking of rivers in a time bound manner;

(b) if so, by when the project would be commenced and by when it is likely to be completed along with the amount of money likely to be spent on this project;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the initial cost of the project and the reasons for delay in its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a), (b) and (d) The certified copy of the recent direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court has so far not been received in Ministry of Water

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.