

Ministry, the National Commission for Minorities and the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to ensure adequate proportional representation to Muslims therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI NINONG ERING): (a) The representation of Muslim employees in the Ministry of Minority Affairs, National Commission for Minorities and National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation at present is as under:

Name of Ministry/ Organisation	Number of Employees	No. of Muslims	Percentage (%)
Ministry of Minority Affairs	91	15	16.48 %
National Commission for Minorities	62	12	19.36%
National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation	39	6	15%

(b) to (c) In view of above, do not arise.

Interlinking of Netravati and Hemavati rivers

*557. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present status of the link between Netravati and Hemavati rivers of Karnataka;

(b) whether the Central Government has received concurrence of the State Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (d) National Water Development Agency (NWDA) which was set up to give concrete shape to the (NPP) has prepared Pre Feasibility Report of Netravati-Hemavati link. Subsequently, NWDA has requested Government of Karnataka for starting Survey and Investigation works for preparation of Feasibility Report.

The Government of Karnataka has taken a stand that the river Netravati is an Intra-state river, its waters are vested with the State of Karnataka, and hence it is entirely the prerogative of Karnataka to decide on the manner of utilization of the Netravati water.

Impact of MGNREGA wages

*558. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether minimum wages guaranteed under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) are causing increase in input prices in agriculture sector due to demand for higher wages;

(b) if so, its impact on food inflation; and

(c) the proposed plan of action to mitigate such an undesirable impact of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) There has been no definitive findings indicating that the wages paid to the workers under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) have any negative impact on input prices in Agricultural sector. The demand and supply of labour for various sectors of the economy depends upon several factors like wage rates, economic prospects, absorption capacity, regional and climatic conditions, demographic profile of the work force, etc.

An analysis of the quantum of MGNREGA works provided across the year indicates a distinct seasonal fluctuation, with a disproportionately higher share of works being done during the off-season in agriculture. Data indicates that it is in the lean agricultural season (January to June) that substantial percentage of person days of work is generated in most areas under MGNREGA.