

[20 December, 2005]

RAJYA SABHA

(b) if not, details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that more of surface water available in the country can be utilized for irrigation; and

(d) if so, volume of surface water available for irrigation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) As per the latest assessment, the source-wise net irrigated area is as under:

a.	Canals	16.0 Million hectare
b.	Tanks	2.5 Million hectare
c.	Wells	33.3 Million hectare
d.	Other sources	2.9 Million hectare

(c) and (d) The Ultimate irrigation potential in the country through surface water is assessed as 75.88 million hectare out of which irrigation potential of 51.01 million hectare has been created. There is scope for creation of balance irrigation potential of 24.87 million hectare through surface water development.

#### **Work on river water unification**

13023. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether work on river water unification has begun;

(b) the names of the rivers in Rajasthan on which work of unifications is swing and by when the work would be completed; and

(c) the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The Ministry of Water Resources (MOWR) and Central Water Commission (CWC) formulated a National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Water Resources Development in 1980 envisaging interbasin transfer of water from surplus basins to deficit ones. NPP comprises of two components; viz (i) Himalayan rivers

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

development component and (ii) Peninsular rivers development component. National Water Development Agency (NWDA) was set up in 1982 as a registered Society under MOWR to carry out detailed studies for NPP, NWDA, based on water balance and other studies, identified 30 links (14 under Himalayan and 16 under Peninsular) for preparation of feasibility reports (FR), FRs of 16(2 Himalayan and 14 Peninsular) links have been completed by NWDA.

(b) and (c) Following three projects of interlinking of rivers (ILR) proposals of NWDA pertain to the State of Rajasthan:

1. Yamuna-Rajasthan Link Project
2. Rajasthan-Sabarmati Link Project
3. Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal Link Project

The feasibility report of Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal link and the pre-feasibility reports of the other two links have been completed by NWDA.

#### **Polavaram project in Andhra Pradesh**

3024. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that due to Polavaram project with the proposed design, 300 villages in 9 mandals in three districts of Andhra Pradesh would be submerged displacing more than 2 lakh tribal people and their livelihood; and

(b) when there are better alternative project designs available that obviate such massive submergence, why the Central Government allowed to proceed with the present project design?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has reported that a total 276 villages (including hamlets) in 9 mandal in three districts of Andhra Pradesh would be submerged displacing 1,77,275 Nos. people out of which 60,770 Nos. are Schedule Tribes.

(b) The State has reported that thirteen alternative sites have been studied and the present site has been selected based on technical and