

- (b) if so, the details of decisions taken in the above meeting; and
- (c) the steps taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) to (c) The concept of Sagarmala was approved by the Cabinet on 25th March, 2015. In addition, the Cabinet directed that a comprehensive plan for the integrated development of islands be finalized in a time bound manner in consultation with the Ministries/Departments concerned.

Periodic meetings have been held related to holistic development of islands and security issues which are being coordinated by Ministry of Home Affairs through a Task Force comprising of representatives from the concerned Ministries / Agencies. An Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) has been constituted to finalize the list of islands to be taken up for development and to identify the lead activities and nodal Ministries for each of these islands.

#### **Implementation of interlinking of river**

1904. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any special committee meeting has been held with the various State Governments for the implementation of Interlinking of River (ILR) programme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) what is the current stand and views of various State Governments on the implementation of the programme; and
- (d) whether Government has fixed any deadline for the implementation of the programme for enhancing water and food security of the country?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SUSHRI UMA BHARATI): (a) and (b) In order to speed up the implementation of Inter-Linking of Rivers Programme and to arrive at a consensus on the link proposals between the States, a 'Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers' has been constituted by this Ministry, in September, 2014. Eight meetings of the Special Committee have been held so far, wherein State Irrigation/Water Resources Ministers along with the Secretaries of various States remained present. The Committee after considering the views of all the stakeholders is proceeding ahead to expedite the objectives of interlinking rivers as per terms of reference of the Committee.

(c) 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 and statutory clearances. The details of objections raised by concerned State Governments for taking up Feasibility Report (FR) VDPR of proposed inter-linking of river projects are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(d) The time limit for the completion of individual link project can be identified only after Detailed Project Reports are techno- economically approved. The implementation of National Perspective Plan for Water Resources Development would create an additional irrigation potential of approximately 35 million hectares and generate 34000 mega watts (MW) hydro power apart from the incidental benefits of flood moderation, navigation, drinking and industrial water supply, fisheries, salinity and pollution control etc. This is a big focus area of the Ministry and the 'Special Committee for ILR' of the Ministry regularly reviews the programme.

#### *Statement*

##### *Link-wise details of objections raised by various State Governments*

Sl. No.	Name of Link Project	Concerned States	Objections raised
1.	Pamba - Achankovil - Vaippar link	Tamil Nadu and Kerala	Kerala Assembly has passed a resolution against taking up of the Link Project (2003)
2.	Parbati - Kalisindh- Chambal link	Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan	Govt. of Madhya Pradesh wants to implement intra-State Links in place of this Link Project.
3.	Mahanadi (Manibhadra)- Godavari link	Odisha	Govt. of Odisha is not agreeable to this link Project due to large submergence of Manibhadra dam/reservoir and wants alternate diversion point.
4.	Netravati - Hemavati link	Karnataka and Tamil Nadu	Govt. of Karnataka intends to utilize Netravati water as per its own plan.