

Reorganization mandates that the execution of project is the responsibility of the Central Government; and

(c) on what basis Government has taken such a decision and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) to (c) Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure *vide* O.M F No. 1(2)/PF-1/2014 (Pt) dated 30.09.2016 communicated the approval for funding of the Polavaram Project by the Central Govt by stating that it will provide 100% of the remaining cost of the irrigation component only of the project for the period starting from 1.4.2014 – the date on which this project was declared as National Project under the Act, to the extent of the cost of the irrigation component on the date.

#### **Adverse effect of river linking projects**

1584. SHRI MANISH GUPTA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the various river linking projects planned by Government;

(b) whether it is a fact, as claimed by environmentalists, that if all the river linking projects were implemented, it would adversely affect the lives of at least three million Indians and a landmass of 8000 square miles would be flooded; and

(c) what is the regulatory clearance status of the Ken-Betwa river linking project and what will be its likely effect on Panna National Park, a Tiger Reserve?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) The National Perspective Plan (NPP) was prepared by the then Ministry of Irrigation, now Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR, RD & GR) in August 1980 for water resources development through inter basin transfer of water, for transferring water from water surplus basins to water-deficit basins. Under the NPP, the National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has identified 30 links (16 under Peninsular Component & 14 under Himalayan Component) for preparation of Feasibility Reports. The Pre-Feasibility Report of the all 30 links have been prepared and circulated to the concerned State Governments by the NWDA. After survey and investigations, Feasibility Reports of 14 links under Peninsular Component and Feasibility Reports of 2 links and draft Feasibility Reports of 7 links (Indian portion) under

Himalayan Component have been completed. Present status, States concerned with Inter Basin Water Transfer Links are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) The apprehensions raised by environmentalists that interlinking would adversely affect lives of millions of people and flood landmass of 8000 square miles have no basis. In fact, Interlinking of rivers is considered essential for addressing the twin problems of water scarcity and flooding in the country. The implementation of Interlinking projects as per National Perspective Plan proposes to provide benefits of 25 million ha of irrigation from surface waters, 10 million ha by increased use of ground waters, raising the ultimate irrigation potential from 140 million ha to 175 million ha and generation of 34 million KW of power, apart from the incidental benefits of flood control, navigation, water supply, fisheries, salinity and pollution control etc.

At the time of preparation of Detailed Project Report of the individual river link projects, detailed Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) studies as per Terms of Reference approved by Environmental Appraisal Committee (EAC) of Ministry of Environment and Forests & CC are carried out. EIA study includes impacts on land environment, water resources and its quality, terrestrial ecology (flora, fauna, vegetation cover, wildlife), aquatic ecology (riverine ecology, fisheries), pollution due to noise during construction phase, impact on air quality, impact due to command area development, impacts on local services (like water supply, education, health care, community forests, impacts on business opportunities). All environmental impacts and issues arising out of the EIA studies are duly addressed in Environmental Management Plan which forms a part of DPR.

Further, Resettlement and Rehabilitation (R&R) Plan in respect of project affected persons is an integral part of the implementation of any ILR Project and is included in the DPR. A comprehensive R&R Plan as per the R&R Policy guidelines of the Government of India -2007 and R&R policy of the State Governments has been prepared in respect of both Ken-Betwa Link Project Phase-I & Phase-II and Damanganga-Pinjal Link Project for which the DPRs have been prepared.

The impacts of individual ILR projects on the human lives, environment, land mass, etc., are suitably addressed in the Environment Impact and Socio-economic impact Assessment studies which is part of the preparation of DPR. The number of people likely to be affected and the impact on land mass, etc., will only be known after carrying out EIA and Socio-economic impact assessment studies of individual links.

(c) All the statutory clearances viz., Environmental, Wildlife, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Forest Land Diversion, techno-economic, investment clearances have been accorded by concerned Ministries/Departments for Ken-Betwa Link Project Phase-1. The Central Empowered Committee (CEC) of Hon'ble Supreme Court considered the project in its meeting held on 01.05.2017. An area of 4141 ha of forest area of Panna Tiger Reserve is coming under the submergence of the proposed Daudhan Dam of Ken-Betwa Link Project Phase-1. Appropriate mitigation measures have been proposed by National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) by preparing comprehensive Landscape Management Plan.

***Statement***

*Present status of Inter Basin Water Transfer Links, the States involved, name of rivers and status of Feasibility Reports/Detailed Project Report*

Sl. No.	Name	Rivers	States concerned	Status
<b>Peninsular Component</b>				
1.	Mahanadi (Manibhadra)- Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) link	Mahanadi & Godavari	Odisha, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka & Chhattisgarh	FR Completed
2.	Godavari (Inchampalli)- Krishna (Pulichintala) link	Godavari & Krishna	-do-	FR Completed
3.	Godavari (Inchampalli)- Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) link	Godavari & Krishna	Odisha, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka & Chhattisgarh,	FR Completed
4.	Godavari (Polavaram)- Krishna (Vijayawada) link	Godavari & Krishna	Odisha, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, & Chhattisgarh	FR Completed
5.	Krishna (Almatti)- Pennar link	Krishna & Pennar	-do-	FR Completed
6.	Krishna (Srisailem)- Pennar link	Krishna & Pennar	-do-	FR Completed

Sl. No.	Name	Rivers	States concerned	Status
7.	Krishna (Nagarjunasagar)- Pennar (Somasila) link	Krishna & Pennar	Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh & Karnataka,	FR Completed
8.	Pennar (Somasila) Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link	Pennar & Cauvery	Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala & Puducherry	FR Completed
9.	Cauvery (Kattalai) - Vaigai-Gundar link	Cauvery, Vaigai & Gundar	Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala & Puducherry	FR Completed
10.	Ken-Betwa link	Ken & Betwa	Uttar Pradesh & Madhya Pradesh	FR & DPR (Ph-I&II) Completed
11.	Parbati -Kalisindh- Chambal link	Parbati, Kalisindh & Chambal	Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan & Uttar Pradesh (UP requested to be consulted during consensus building)	FR Completed
12.	Par-Tapi-Narmada link	Par, Tapi & Narmada	Maharashtra & Gujarat	FR & DPR Completed
13.	Damanganga - Pinjal link	Damanganga & Pinjal	Maharashtra & Gujarat	FR & DPR Completed
14.	Bedti - Varda link	Bedti & Varda	Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh & Karnataka	PFR Completed
15.	Netravati - Hemavati link	Netravati & Hemavati	Karnataka, Tamil Nadu & Kerala	PFR Completed
16.	Pamba - Achankovil - Vaippar link	Pamba, Achankovil & Vaippar	Kerala & Tamil Nadu,	FR Completed

**Himalayan Component**

1.	Manas-Sankosh-Tista- Ganga (M-S-T-G) link	Manas- Sankosh- Tista-Ganga	Assam, West Bengal, Bihar & Bhutan	PFR completed
2.	Kosi-Ghaghra link	Kosi & Ghaghra	Bihar, Uttar Pradesh & Nepal	PFR completed

Sl. No.	Name	Rivers	States concerned	Status
3.	Gandak-Ganga link	Gandak & Ganga	-do-	Draft FR completed (Indian portion)
4.	Ghaghra-Yamuna link	Ghaghra & Yamuna	-do-	FR completed (Indian portion)
5.	Sarda-Yamuna link	Sarda & Yamuna	Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand & Nepal	FR completed (Indian portion)
6.	Yamuna-Rajasthan link	Yamuna & Sukri	Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana & Rajasthan	Draft FR completed
7.	Rajasthan-Sabarmati link	Sabarmati	-do-	Draft FR completed
8.	Chunar-Sone Barrage link	Ganga & Sone	Bihar & Uttar Pradesh	Draft FR completed
9.	Sone Dam - Southern Tributaries of Ganga link	Sone & Badua	Bihar & Jharkhand	PFR completed
10.	Ganga(Farakka)-Damodar-Subernarekha link	Ganga, Damodar & Subernarekha	West Bengal, Odisha & Jharkhand	Draft FR completed
11.	Subernarekha-Mahanadi link	Subernarekha & Mahanadi	West Bengal & Odisha	Draft FR Completed
12.	Kosi-Mechi link	Kosi & Mechi	Bihar, West Bengal & Nepal	PFR completed Entirely lies in Nepal
13.	Ganga (Farakka)-Sunderbans link	Ganga & Ichhamati	West Bengal	Draft FR completed
14.	Jogighopa-Tista-Farakka link (Alternative to M-S-T-G)	Manas, Tista & Ganga	-do-	(Alternative to M-S-T-G Link) dropped

- PFR- Pre Feasibility Report
- FR- Feasibility Report
- DPR- Detailed Project Report