

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 736

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

ONGOING/UPCOMING RIVER-LINKING PROJECTS

736. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is in the process of starting/restarting certain river-linking projects in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has finalised a timeline for completion of ongoing/upcoming river-linking projects in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether any study has been conducted by Government to study the benefits of upcoming river-linking projects; and
- (f) if so, the findings of such a study and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) to (c) In 1980, the Government of India formulated a National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Inter-linking of Rivers (ILR) for transferring water from surplus basins to deficit basins/areas. National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has been entrusted with the work of ILR under the NPP. 30 ILR projects have been identified under the NPP with two components, viz; Himalayan Component (14 projects) and Peninsular Component (16 projects). Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of 11 projects, Feasibility Reports (FRs) of 26 projects and Pre-Feasibility Report (PFRs) of all 30 ILR projects under the NPP have been completed. Detailed status of ILR Projects under the NPP is given at **Annexure**.

Ken-Betwa Link Project (KBLP) is the first ILR project under the NPP, implementation of which has started. The project is planned to be completed by March, 2030. For other link projects, schedule of completion would depend upon the party States arriving at a consensus and signing link specific Memorandum of Agreements (MoAs) for their implementation.

(d) to (e) As per the studies conducted by the NWDA to explore the benefits of the ILR projects under the NPP, the implementation of the NPP would give benefits of 25 million hectare (ha) of irrigation from surface waters, 10 million ha by increased use of ground waters, raising the ultimate irrigation potential of the country from 140 million ha to 175 million ha, apart from generation of power and other incidental benefits of flood control, navigation, water supply, fisheries, salinity and pollution control, etc. Details of the benefits of the ILR Projects under the NPP are, *inter alia*, contained in the **Annexure**.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (c) AND (d) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 736 TO BE ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 10.02.2025 REGARDING “ONGOING/UPCOMING RIVER-LINKING PROJECTS”.

DETAILED STATUS OF ILR PROJECTS UNDER THE NPP AND THEIR BENEFITS

Peninsular Component

Sl.No	Name	States benefited	Annual Irrigation (Lakh ha)	Domestic Industrial & Hydro power (Million Cubic Metres) (MCM) (Megawatt) (MW)	Status	
1	Mahanadi (Manibhadra) - Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) link	Andhra Pradesh (AP) and Odisha	4.43	802	445	FR completed
	Alternate Mahanadi (Barmul) - Rushikulya - Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) link	AP and Odisha	6.25 (0.91 + 3.52 + 1.82*)	700 + 125*	210 + 240*	FR completed
2	Godavari (Polavaram) - Krishna (Vijayawada) link @@	AP	2.1	162	--	FR completed
3	a.) Godavari (Inchampalli) - Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) link	Telangana	2.87	237	975+70=1045	FR completed
	b.) Alternate Godavari (Inchampalli) - Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) link **	Telangana	2.38	232	26	DPR completed
4	Godavari (Inchampalli/SSMPP) - Krishna (Pulichintala) link	Telangana and AP	4.74 (0.36+4.38)	346	90	DPR completed
5	a.) Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) - Pennar (Somasila) link	AP	5.81	124	90	FR completed
	b.) Alternate Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) - Pennar (Somasila) link **	AP	1.71	236	40	DPR completed
6	Krishna (Srisailam) - Pennar link	AP	1.79	58	11	Draft DPR completed
7	Krishna (Almatti) - Pennar link	Karnataka	0.69	467	--	Draft DPR completed
		AP	1.57	29.83		
8	a. Pennar (Somasila) - Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link	AP, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry	4.91 (0.49+4.36+0.06)	1105	--	FR completed
	b. Alternate Pennar (Somasila) - Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link **	AP	0.51	43	DPR completed	
		Tamil Nadu	1.14	618		
Puducherry	--	62				
9	Cauvery (Kattalai) - Vaigai - Gundar link	Tamil Nadu	4.48	218	--	DPR completed

10	a.Parbati –Kalisindh Chambal link	- Madhya Pradesh (MP) and Rajasthan	Alt.I = 2.30 Alt.II = 2.20	=- 13.2	--	FR completed
	b. Modified Parbati –Kalisindh-Chambal link (duly integrated with ERCP)	-MP and Rajasthan	3.38 (as per draft PFR) MP – 2.58 Rajasthan-0.8	Rajasthan-Domestic-1723 MCM Industrial-286 MCM MP-Domestic-36 MCM	-	Draft PFR completed
11	Damanganga - Pinjal link	Maharashtra (only water supply to Mumbai)	--	895	5	DPR completed
12	Par-Tapi-Narmada link	Gujarat Maharashtra	2.28 0.04	76 --	21 --	DPR completed
13	Ken-Betwa link	Uttar Pradesh (UP) and Madhya Pradesh	10.62 (2.51 +8.11)	194	103 MW (Hydro) & 27MW (Solar)	DPR completed & implementation started
14	Pamba - Achankovil - Vaippar link	Tamil Nadu Kerala	0.91	--	3.87 504.5	FR completed
15	Bedti - Varda link@	Karnataka	1.05	38	--	DPR completed
16	Netravati – Hemavati link***	Karnataka	0.34	--	--	PFR completed

*Benefit to Odisha from Six Projects of Govt. of Odisha

** Due to pending consensus on Manibhadra and Inchampalli dams, Alternate study to divert unutilized waters of Godavari river was carried out and DPR of Godavari (Inchampalli/ Janampet) – Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) - Pennar (Somasila) – Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link projects completed. Godavari-Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link project has been prepared comprising of Godavari (Inchampalli / Janampet) - Krishna (Nagarjunasagar), Krishna (Nagarjunasagar)- Pennar (Somasila) and Pennar(Somasila)-Cauvery(Grand Anicut) link projects. The report was further updated terminating the link link canal at Manimukhtanadi, a tributary of Vellar river flowing adjacent of Cauvery basin.

@ Bedti – Varda Link- DPR was prepared directly after preparation of its PFR, no FR was prepared.

@@ Godavari (Polavaram)- Krishna (Vijayawada) Link- the project has been taken up by Govt. of Andhra Pradesh.

*** Further studies are not taken up since after implementation of Yettinahole project by Govt. of Karnataka, no surplus water is available in Netravati basin for diversion through this link.

Note: For PKC links at Serial no.10 (a): Alt I- Linking with GandhisagarDam, Alt. II- Linking with Rana Pratapsagar Dam

Himalayan Component

Sl.No	Name	States / Countries benefited	Annual Irrigation (Lakh ha)	Domestic & Industrial (MCM)	Hydro power (MW)	Status
1.	Kosi-Mechi link	Bihar and Nepal	4.74 (2.99+1.75)	24	3180	PFR completed
2.	Kosi-Ghaghra link	Bihar, UP and Nepal	8.35 (6.05+1.20+1.10)	0	--	FR completed
3.	Gandak - Ganga link	UP and Nepal	34.58 (28.80+5.78)	700	4375 Dam Power House (PH) & 180 Canal PH	FR completed
4.	Ghaghra - Yamuna link	UP and Nepal	27.84 (25.30 + 2.54)	1391	10884	Draft FR completed
5.	Sarda - Yamuna link	UP and Uttarakhand	2.95 (2.65 + 0.30)	3054	6620	FR completed
6.	Yamuna-Rajasthan link	Haryana and Rajasthan	2.51 (0.11+ 2.40)	30	--	FR completed
7.	Rajasthan-Sabarmati link	Rajasthan and Gujarat	11.53 (11.21+0.32)	102	--	FR completed
8.	Chunar-Sone Barrage link	Bihar and UP	0.67 (0.13 + 0.54)	--	--	Draft FR completed
9.	Sone Dam - Southern Tributaries of Ganga link	Bihar and Jharkhand	3.07 (2.39 + 0.68)	360	90 Dam PH & 5 Canal PH	Draft FR completed
10.	Manas-Sankosh-Tista-Ganga (M-S-T-G) link	Assam, West Bengal (WB) and Bihar	3.41 (2.05 + 1.00 + 0.36)	--	--	FR completed
11.	Jogighopa-Tista-Farakka link (Alternative to M-S-T-G)	Assam, WB and Bihar	3.559 (0.975+ 1.564+ 1.02)	265	360	PFR completed (The proposal has been dropped)
12.	Farakka-Sundarbans link	WB	1.50	184	--	FR completed
13.	Ganga(Farakka) Damodar-Subarnarekha link	WB, Odisha and Jharkhand	12.30 (11.18+ 0.39+ 0.73)	432	--	FR completed
14.	Subarnarekha-Mahanadi link	WB and Odisha	2.16 (0.18+ 1.98)	198	20	FR completed
