

INTER-LINKING OF RIVERS

Posted On: 24 JUL 2025 5:18PM by PIB Delhi

The Government of India has formulated a National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Inter-Linking of Rivers (ILR) for transferring water from surplus basins to deficit basins/areas of the country. National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has been entrusted with the work of Interlinking of Rivers 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 Projects Reports (DPRs) of 11 link projects, Feasibility Reports (FRs) of 26 link projects and Pre-Feasibility Reports (PFRs) of 30 link projects have been completed.

Details of the status of ILR projects under the NPP are given below.

Ken-Betwa Link project (KBLP): KBLP is the first link of NPP that is under implementation. The Govt. of India has approved the implementation of KBLP in December, 2021 with an estimated cost of Rs. 44,605 crore (year 2020-21 price level) with central support of Rs. 39,317 crore through a Special Purpose Vehicle viz. Ken Betwa Link Project Authority (KBLPA). Work for the main component of the project i.e. Daudhan dam has been awarded. A Project Management Consultant has been hired for assisting KBLPA for implementation of project.

The link projects under the NPP are judiciously planned and designed to, wherever possible, transfer water from surplus basins to the deficit/water short basins and thus, mitigating the effects of floods and droughts to some extent. The flood water from flood prone/water surplus river basins would be diverted to water deficit regions and would also recharge ground water table, tanks and canals in the command areas.

Further, the Flood management and anti-erosion schemes are planned and executed by the respective State Governments based on their priorities. To support these efforts, the Union Government provides both technical guidance and promotional financial assistance for managing floods in critical areas.

In order to strengthen structural flood management measures, the Union Government implemented the Flood Management Programme (FMP) during the XI and XII Five Year Plans, offering central assistance to States for works related to flood control, anti-erosion, drainage improvement, and protection against sea erosion. This initiative was subsequently continued as a component of the *Flood Management and Border Areas Programme* (FMBAP) during the period 2017–18 to 2020–21, and was further extended up to 2026 with a limited financial outlay.

Under the FMP component of FMBAP, a total of 48 flood management projects—estimated at ₹1866.50 crore—have been included for implementation, out of which central assistance amounting to ₹924.40 crore has been released to the Government of Bihar.

Further, the Ministry of Jal Shakti has advised all the States to adopt and enforce flood plain zoning as a non-structural measure to mitigate damage caused by floods.

This information was provided by THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI **SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY** in a written reply to a question in Lok Sabha today.

MAM/SMP

(Lok Sabha US Q873)

(Release ID: 2147818)