

Five river linking projects finalized in Budget 2022

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In news– Recently, the Union Finance minister has announced that draft Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of five river linking projects have been finalized.

About five river linking projects-

The draft Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of five river links have been finalized, which include Damanganga – Pinjal, Par – Tapi Narmada, Krishna – Pennar, Godavari – Krishna and Pennar – Cauvery. **The central government will provide support for implementation once a consensus is reached** among the beneficiary states.

Damanganga – Pinjal river linking project-

- This project envisages **transfer of balance available water at the proposed Bhugad reservoir across Daman Ganga River** and at the proposed Khargihill reservoir across Vagh river, a tributary of Damanganga river, in Daman Ganga basin for augmentation of water supply **to Greater Mumbai** to meet its domestic and industrial water requirements in the near future.
- The Bhugad and Khargi hill reservoirs (proposed by NWDA) and Pinjal reservoir (proposed by Government of Maharashtra across Pinjalriver, a tributary of Vaitarna river) are proposed to be connected through pressure tunnels.
- The purpose is **to make the combined water from Bhugad and Khargihill reservoirs to reach Pinjal** reservoir from where further arrangements for **transmitting the water to Greater Mumbai** will be made by Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM) and Mumbai Metropolitan RegionDevelopment Authority (MMRDA) as per their plans.

The Par-Tapi-Narmada project-

- It proposes to **provide water to drought prone regions of Kutch and Saurashtra** by diverting excess water from seven reservoirs in the Western Ghats in North Maharashtra and south Gujarat.
- The water from the seven proposed reservoirs would be taken through a 395 km long canal including the 33km length of the feeder canals to take over a part of the command of the on-going Sardar Sarovar Project, while irrigating small enroute areas.

Krishna – Pennar link project-

- The aim of Krishna- Pennar link is **to transfer a part of the additional water available at Srisaïlam** by partial exchange of the surplus waters of the Mahanadi and the Godavari rivers proposed to be brought to the Krishna river.
- This project has three links, Godavari (Inchampalli)-Krishna (Nagarjunasagar), Krishna (Nagarjunasagar)-Pennar (Somasila) and Pennar (Somasila)-Cauvery (Grand Anicut).

Godavari – Krishna link project-

- The proposal to link Godavari, which is prone to flooding, and Krishna, which doesn't have enough water, has been around for several decades.
- According to the draft DPR, around 247 TMC of water can be diverted from Godavari river to Nagarjuna Sagar dam through lifting.
- The project was designed to meet the irrigation and drinking water needs of drought-prone Rayalaseema region in the state.

Pennar – Cauvery link project-

- It is **also called Pennar (Somasila) – Palar – Cauvery**

(Grand anicut) link Project.

- Its purpose is to **divert 8565 Mm3 of combined Mahanadi and Godavari surplus waters brought into the Somasila reservoir** by Srisailam –Pennar & Nagarjunasagar – Somasila links to meet the irrigation domestic requirements of enroute basins further transfer to water short Cauvery, Vaigai and Gundar basins.
- The total length of the link canal is 529.190 km and it will provide irrigation to an area of 491200 ha in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Pondicherry.

Extra

reading -

<https://journalsofindia.com/interlinking-of-rivers-2/>