

Chapter 3 Interstate Aspects

3.1 States traversed by the rivers

Both the Krishna and the Pennar rivers, which the Nagarjunasagar - Somasila link proposes to connect are interstate rivers. The Krishna river originates in the State of Maharashtra and flows through the States of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh before joining the Bay of Bengal. The Pennar river originates in the State of Karnataka and flows through Andhra Pradesh before joining the Bay of Bengal.

State-wise break up of the catchment areas of the Krishna and Pennar river basins is given in Table 3.1.

**Table 3.1
State-wise catchment area of basins**

Sl. No.	Name of the river basin	Catchment area in sq. km			
		Maharashtra	Karnataka	Andhra Pradesh	Total
1	Krishna basin (as a whole)	69425	113272	76251	258948
	a) Krishna basin upto Nagarjunasagar dam site	69425	113272	38008	220705
2	Pennar basin (as a whole)	-	6937	48276	55213
	a) Pennar basin upto Somasila dam site	-	6937	43556	50493

3.2 Inter-state agreements

3.2.1 Krishna river - Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal Award

According to the Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal (KWDT), the availability of water in the Krishna basin at 75% dependability is estimated to be 2060 TMC (58333 Mm³). The Tribunal allocated this quantity among the riparian states as indicated in Table 3.2.

Table 3.2
State-wise allocation of water as per KWDT Award

Sl.No.	State	Allocation	
		TMC	(Mm ³)
1	Mharashtra	560	(15857)
2	Karnataka	700	(19822)
3	Andhra Pradesh	800	(22654)

In addition to the above quantities, the KWDT also allocated the estimated regenerated flows, totaling to 70 TMC (1982 Mm³) in the Krishna basin, to the riparian states as 25 TMC (708 Mm³) to Maharashtra, 34 TMC (963 Mm³) to Karnataka and 11 TMC (311 Mm³) to Andhra Pradesh.

The KWDT award is slated for review after the 31st May, 2000 AD. However, Clause XIV(B) of the Tribunal Award states that "In the event of the augmentation of the waters of river Krishna by the diversion of the waters of any other river, no state shall be debarred from claiming before any authority or Tribunal even before the 31st May 2000 that it is entitled to a greater share in the waters of the river Krishna on account of such augmentation nor shall any state be debarred from disputing such claim".

Out of the above allocations, a total quantity of 15 TMC(425 Mm³) @5 TMC (142 Mm³) from the allocation of each State has been committed by the states of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh for the water supply to Chennai city.

As per the Godavari Water Disputes Tribunal Award, the state of Andhra Pradesh can divert a quantity of 80 TMC (2265 Mm³) of Godavari water at 75% dependability from Polavaram project, into Krishna river above Prakasam barrage to substitute the releases from Nagarjunasagar project for Krishna delta, thus enabling the use of the said 80 TMC for projects upstream of Nagarjunasagar. The states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra agreed to share this quantity of 80 TMC in the proportion of 45 TMC (1274 Mm³), 21 TMC (595 Mm³) and 14 TMC (396 Mm³) respectively, for use in the projects upstream of Nagarjunasagar.

3.2.2 Implications of Nagarjunasagar - Somasila link proposal

The Krishna basin itself being a deficit basin, no diversion from the flows of the Krishna River to other basins is proposed through the Nagarjunasagar - Somasila link canal.

The diversion of 12146 Mm³ of water proposed through the link canal from the Nagarjunasagar reservoir is out of the 14200 Mm³ of surplus Mahanadi and Godavari waters proposed to be brought into the Nagarjunasagar reservoir, through the Inchampalli -Nagarjunasagar link.

Out of the 12146 Mm³ of water diverted through the link, a quantity of 8426 Mm³ will be further diverted from Somasila reservoir after meeting deficit in Pennar delta for utilisation in the basin area covered by the streams between Pennar and Palar, Palar basin, basin area covered by the streams between Palar and Cauvery, Cauvery and Vaigai basins.

The Nagarjunasagar - Somasila link is a part of the major peninsular link system connecting Mahanadi – Godavari – Krishna – Pennar –Cauvery - Vaigai Rivers under the peninsular rivers development component of the National Perspective Plan. A consensus has to be arrived at among all the concerned states of the Peninsular river basins, for the implementation of the Peninsular rivers link system including the Nagarjunasagar - Somasila link. After such a consensus, a separate interstate agreement will have to be drawn among all the concerned states for sharing of the cost and surplus waters. The existing interstate agreement for various river basins will also have to be reviewed and modified accordingly.