

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1214**

ANSWERED ON 13.02.2023

**RIVER WATER DISPUTES AMONG THE STATES**

1214. SHRI ANIL DESAI

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are long pending water disputes between various States for a long time;
- (b) the States which are parties on such water disputes;
- (c) the main issue involved therein; and
- (d) the type of negotiations to solve the dispute?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI**

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

**(a) to (d)** For adjudication of disputes relating to waters of inter-State rivers and river valley thereof, the Parliament has enacted the Inter-State River Water Disputes (ISRWD) Act, 1956. When any request under the said Act is received from any State Government in respect of any water dispute on the inter-State rivers and the Central Government is of the opinion that the water dispute cannot be settled by negotiations, the Central Government constitutes a Water Disputes Tribunal for the adjudication of the water dispute.

Currently, 4 water disputes Tribunals are active. The details of party states, main issues of disputes and current status of 4 active Tribunals are given at **Annexure** respectively.

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**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1214 ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON  
13.02.2023 REGARDING “RIVER WATER DISPUTES AMONG THE STATES”**

**Details and Status of active Inter-State Water Disputes Tribunals relating to the sharing of river water**

S.No	Name of Tribunal	States concerned	Date of constitution	Main Issue/issues	Present Status
1.	Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal –II(KWDT-II)	Karnataka, Telengana, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra	April, 2004 (Effective date of Constitution is 01.02.2006)	The present Tribunal is to address the following terms of reference contained under Section 89 of AP Reorganization Act, 2014: a) Shall make project-wise specific allocation, if such allocation have not been made by a Tribunal constituted under the Inter-State River Water Disputes Act, 1956, b) Shall determine an operational protocol for project-wise release of water in the event of deficit flows.	Report and decision under Section 5(2) of ISRWD Act, 1956 was submitted on 30.12.2010 and further report under Section 5(3) was submitted by the Tribunal on 29.11.2013. However, as per Supreme Court Order dated 16.9.2011, till further order, the report decision taken by the Tribunal on references filed by States and Central Government shall not be published in the official Gazette.  Term of the Tribunal was extended for a period of two years w.e.f. 1 <sup>st</sup> August, 2014 to address the terms of reference as contained in section 89 of Andhra Pradesh Re-organisation Act, 2014. Thereafter, the term of the Tribunal has been extended seven times for period of one year latest being w.e.f. 01.08.2022.
2.	Mahanadi Water Disputes Tribunal	Odisha and Chhattisgarh	12 <sup>th</sup> March, 2018	Main issues framed by the Tribunal are as under: 1. Quantum of surplus water available in Mahanadi river and its valley in the catchment up to Hirakud Dam; 2. Yield of Mahanadi river at 75% and 50% dependability up to Hirakud Dam, up to Naraj and till the outfall of the river to the sea; 3. Equitable share of riparian States in the waters of river Mahanadi and in the surplus flow; 4. Effect of alleged construction of 512 anicuts, barrages in	The Central Government has constituted Mahanadi Water Disputes Tribunal vide Notification dated 12.03.2018 and referred the water disputes to the Tribunal for adjudication.  The Central Government, vide Notification dated 3rd June, 2021 has extended the tenure of the Tribunal for a period of two years upto 11th March, 2023 or till the submission of report whichever is earlier.

				Mahanadi basin by Chhattisgarh in the downstream flows in the State of Odisha during non-monsoon months.	
3.	Mahadayi Water Disputes Tribunal(MWDT)	Goa, Karnataka and Maharashtra	16 <sup>th</sup> November, 2010 However, vide notification dated 13.11.2014 date of reckoning of the constitution of the Tribunal is w.e.f. 21.08.2013	Main issues framed by the Tribunal are as under: 1. Assessment of water availability; 2. Share of basin States in the waters of Mahadayi river basin for consumptive & non consumptive utilization; 3. Adverse effect on forests, wildlife, other organic life and bio-diversity stratosphere of the area in the Mahadayi basin due to the proposed diversion schemes of the States of Karnataka and Maharashtra.	The MWDT submitted its report under Section 5(2) of the ISRWD Act, 1956 to the Central Government on 14.08.2018. Further references under Section 5(3) have been filed by the party States and the Central Government before the Tribunal. The term of the Tribunal has been extended for a further period of one year w.e.f. 20.08.2022 vide Notification dated 21.07.2022 to submit its Further Report under Section 5(3) of ISRWD Act, 1956.  The Central Government has notified the Award and Decision of the MWDT given under Section 5(2) on 14.08.2018 in the Gazette of India vide notification No. S.O. 888(E). dated 27.02.2020.
4.	Ravi & Beas Water Tribunal(RBWT)	Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan	April, 1986	Issues before the Tribunal are: 1. (Para 9.1 of Rajiv-Longowal Accord) The farmers of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan will continue to get water not less than what they are using from the Ravi Beas system as on 1.7.85. Waters used for consumptive purposes will also remain unaffected. Quantum of usage shall be verified by the Tribunal referred to in Para 9.2 of the Accord. 2. (Para 9.2 of Rajiv-Longowal Accord) The claim of Punjab and Haryana regarding the shares in their remaining waters will be referred for adjudication to a Tribunal	Report and decision under section 5(2) was submitted by the Tribunal on 30.01.1987 which was forwarded to states on 20.05.1987.  The Central Government forwarded its references and references received from party states to the Tribunal on 19.08.1987 for seeking clarification/explanation from the Tribunal under Section 5(3) of the ISRWD Act, 1956.  The tenure of the Tribunal is being extended on yearly basis to submit its further report under Section 5(3) of the said Act. The current tenure of the Tribunal has been extended upto 05.08.2023 vide Gazette Notification dated 1st August, 2022.