

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES,  
RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4389**  
ANSWERED ON 22.03.2018

**TRIBUNAL FOR MAHANADI RIVER WATER DISPUTE**

4389. SHRI VENKATESH BABU T.G.

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up a national tribunal to resolve various river water disputes in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and time by which it is likely to be set up;
- (c) whether the Government has approved setting up of a tribunal to resolve the dispute regarding sharing of river water of Mahanadi and also found an amicable solution on Cauvery water dispute; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION & PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a) & (b) In order to streamline the existing process of adjudication of inter-State river water disputes by way of amending the Inter State River Water Disputes (ISRWD) Act, 1956, the Inter State River Water Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 2017 was introduced in the Lok Sabha by the Minister for WR, RD & GR on 14.03.2017. The Bill envisages to constitute a standalone Tribunal with permanent establishment and permanent office space and infrastructure so as to obviate the need to set up a separate Tribunal for each water dispute which is invariably time-consuming process. The proposed amendments in the Bill will speed up the adjudication of water disputes referred to it. The Bill was referred to Parliamentary Standing Committee on Water Resources for examination, which submitted its recommendation on the Bill vide Lok Sabha Secretariat letter dated 11.08.2017 in the form of 'Nineteenth Report of Standing Committee on Water Resources on the Inter-State River Water Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 2017'. Accordingly, the Ministry has prepared draft Cabinet Note for Official Amendments to Inter-State River Water Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 2017.

(c) & (d) The Central Government has constituted Mahanadi Water Disputes Tribunal vide Notification No. S.O. 1114(E) dated 12.03.2018 for adjudication of water disputes between the concerned States on Mahanadi river.

Further, the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal (CWDT) submitted its reports and decision under Section 5(2) of the ISRWD Act, 1956 to the Central Government on 05.02.2007 which was published in the Official Gazette on 19.2.2013 to make it effective and binding on party States. CWDT determined the yield of Cauvery basin at Lower Coleroon Anicut as 740 TMC at 50 % dependability. It allocated 419 TMC to Tamil Nadu, 270 TMC to Karnataka, 30 TMC to Kerala and 7 TMC to Puducherry. It also allowed 10 TMC for environmental purpose and 4 TMC as inevitable escapage to the sea. It also directed the Karnataka to make available 192 TMC at inter-State contact point Billigundulu by specifying monthly schedule.

The party States filed Civil Appeals against the order of CWDT dated 5.2.2007 before the Supreme Court. In this regard, the Supreme Court has pronounced its final verdict 16.02.2018 wherein share of Karnataka has been increased to 284.75 TMC and the share of Tamil Nadu has been reduced to 404.25 TMC. Consequently, Karnataka has now to make available 177.25 TMC at Billigundulu. The Supreme Court also directed the Central Government to frame a scheme under Section 6 (A) of the ISRWD Act, 1956 to give effect to the award of the Supreme Court.

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