

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1304

ANSWERED ON 09.02.2023

WATER TRIBUNALS

1304. SHRI THIRUNAVUKKARASAR SU

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

- (a) whether a number of water tribunals have been set up in the country to resolve the water related disputes between the States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the functioning of each of such tribunals;
- (c) whether the tenure of some of the water tribunals have been extended;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether it is also proposed to fix a minimum time frame to adjudicate such disputes and if so, the details thereof?

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. So far 9 water disputes Tribunals have been constituted to adjudicate inter-State River water disputes out of which 5 Tribunals have adjudicated the water disputes and subsequently these Tribunals have been dissolved. The details and status of the 5 dissolved tribunals are given at **Annexure-I**. The details and status of 4 active tribunals are given at **Annexure-II**.

(e) In the ISRWD Act, 1956 as amended, time limits are already prescribed for different stages of adjudication of water disputes.

ANNEXURE-I**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1304 ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 09.02.2023 REGARDING “WATER TRIBUNALS”****Details and Status of dissolved Inter-State Water Disputes Tribunals relating to the sharing of river water**

S.No	Name of Tribunal	States concerned	Date of constitution	Present Status
1.	Godavari Water Disputes Tribunal	Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh & Odisha	10 th April, 1969	Award given in July, 1980.
2.	Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal -I	Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka,	10 th April, 1969	Award given in May, 1976
3.	Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal	Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra	6 th October, 1969	Award given in December, 1979
4.	Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal	Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Puduchery	2 nd June, 1990	Report and decision under section 5(2) of ISRWD Act given on 5.2.2007 and published vide Notification dated 19.2.2013. Pursuant to Supreme Court verdict dated 16.02.2018, the Tribunal has been dissolved vide Gazette Notification No. S.O. 3465(E) dated 16.07.2018.
5.	Vansadhara Water Disputes Tribunal(VWDT)	Andhra Pradesh & Odisha	24 th February, 2010 Effective date of constitution 17 th September, 2012	Reports under sec 5(2) & Final Award under sec 5(3) given on 13.09.2017 & 21.06.2021 respectively. Tribunal dissolved vide Notification dt 09.03.2022.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1304 ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 09.02.2023 REGARDING “WATER TRIBUNALS”**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	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)	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 and 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 st 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 th March, 2018	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 3 rd June, 2021 has extended the tenure of the Tribunal for a period of two years upto 11 th March, 2023 or till the submission of report whichever is earlier.
3.	Mahadayi Water Disputes Tribunal(MWDT)	Goa, Karnataka and Maharashtra	16 th November, 2010 However, vide notification dated 13.11.2014 date of reckoning of the constitution of the Tribunal is w.e.f.	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 by 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

			21.08.2013	<p>ISRWD Act, 1956.</p> <p>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.</p>
4.	Ravi & Beas Water Tribunal(RBWT)	Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan	April, 1986	<p>Report and decision under section 5(2) was submitted by Tribunal on 30.1.1987 which was forwarded to States on 20.05.1987.</p> <p>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</p> <p>The Tribunal was being extended on yearly basis to submit its Further Report under Section 5(3) of the said Act. Current tenure of the Tribunal has been extended upto 05.08.2023 vide Gazette Notification dated 1st August, 2022.</p>
