

**Title: Provision done by Chhattisgarh regarding arresting water across Mahanadi as per guidelines of MOEF on Minimum water flow and its impact on Hirakund Dam.**

**SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK):** Sir, I am raising a matter relating to River Mahanadi which I have been raising a number of times. During the 16<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha as well as in the 17<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha, I raised this issue a number of times.

Sir, Chhattisgarh unilaterally planned illegal abstraction of 24.50 million acre feet (MAF) of Mahanadi river water. This is disclosed in their letter dated 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2016. As per the 1947 report of Central Waterways Irrigation and Navigation Commission on the Mahanadi Valley Development: Hirakud Dam Project, the minimum flow of 20.61 MAF of water was apportioned, and Odisha was permitted to use 12.98 MAF of water and the rest for the upstream States. Even after much persuasion, the Union Government did not act. Ultimately, Odisha Government went to the apex court, and it referred the matter to the Union Government to form a Tribunal. The Tribunal after formation has already had 33 sittings during the last three years or more, and one does not know how many more sittings are supposed to be held. As per the law of the land, the Tribunal was supposed to give its report within a specified period of time. They have not done it.

Sir, I would urge upon the Central Government to find out whether the State of Chhattisgarh during its project planning has considered the MOEF Guidelines for minimum water flow. How many water arresting structures have been constructed by Chhattisgarh across Mahanadi, whether dams inside Mahanadi basin of Chhattisgarh are being operated by any Standard Operating Procedure, and whether Chhattisgarh has kept any provision in their reservoirs to absorb flood waters temporarily for the safety of Hirakud dam in Odisha? The answer is a big no. Should the Centre not intervene? Here, I would like to draw the attention of this House and also of the Government, through you, आज हीराकुंड डैम में बहुत भयंकर स्थिति है । The reservoir water level is coming down every day by five feet.

Intake of water is hardly 10,000 cusecs. अभी वाटर लेवल 621.97 रिजर्वायर में है । अगर ऐसी हालत रही, तो बुरी हालत हो जाएगी । ओडिशा के जितने भी पॉवर जेनरेशन, कैनाल इरीगेशन और एक्का फायर, जो महानदी सिस्टम में है, वह पूरी तरह से बंद हो जाएगा । एनवायरमेंट मिनिस्ट्री की जो गाइडलाइन है, उसके हिसाब से छत्तीसगढ़ तो पानी भेजें । अभी वहां से पानी बिल्कुल भी नहीं आ रहा है ।

माननीय सभापति : ठीक है ।

**श्री भर्तृहरि महताब :** यह फरवरी का महीना है । आगे समर आने वाली है । फागुन का महीना आने में अभी पांच दिन और बाकी हैं । आज महानदी रिवर सिस्टम में यह स्थिति है । It is a very big concern of our State and also of millions of people in our country.

