

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3015
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2012
MAHI RIVER AGREEMENT
Jakhar Shri Badri Ram

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the State Governments of Gujarat and Rajasthan have entered into an agreement for sharing the water of Mahi river;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the State Government of Gujarat is violating the said agreement;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES & MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA)

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Relevant extract of Agreement signed by Ministers of Government of Gujarat and Rajasthan on 10/1/1966 for exploitation of Mahi water are given below:

1. Kadana dam should be built to FRL 419.00 Ft. The entire cost and benefits of this Project will be borne by Gujarat. At a later date when Mahi areas taken over by Narmada and a part of the Kadana water are released for use in Rajasthan, Rajasthan should pay to Gujarat an appropriate cost of the Dam for such use. The exact proportions will be fixed at the time when such releases become available.
2. Banswara dam across Mahi located in Rajasthan, will be built to FRL 921 ft. Out of the total cost of the Dam, a portion will be allocated for power which Rajasthan will develop from the water of this account. This will be at the rate of Rs. 1250 per K.W. firm power. If the total cost of the dam increases beyond Rs. 14 crores, the allocated cost per KW taken above will also be increased proportionately.
3. The cost of the dam for FRL 915 ft. should be shared between Gujarat and Rajasthan in the ratio of 40:9 as the utilisation of the waters for irrigation inclusive of evaporation losses are 40 TMC in Gujarat and 9 TMC in Rajasthan.

(c) to (e) In the letter dated 18.09.2009, the Chief Minister, Rajasthan has alleged that Government of Gujarat in violation of the agreement dated 10.1.1966 between Gujarat and Rajasthan, is constructing a canal named "Sujlam Suflam" for drawl of water from Kadana dam. Further, he stated that as per the agreement date 10.1.1966, after Gujarat starts irrigating the Mahi command areas by Narmada waters, 40 TMC of Mahi water would become available to Rajasthan state for its use. It is also mentioned that Mahi being an inter-state river and for any utilization of Mahi water, Gujarat would have got concurrence of the Rajasthan and approval of Central Water Commission(CWC)/ Government of India (GOI) and requested Government of India to intervene and restrain Government of Gujarat from drawing any water from Kadana dam for its Sujlam Suflam Yojana. As informed by the Government of Gujarat, Mahi Agreement of 1966 contemplate that Narmada water would be available in Mahi command. However, in 1979, the proposal was not agreed to by the Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal and no water of Narmada has been allocated to the Mahi command. In view of this, the Government of Gujarat have proposed a high level committee of technical experts from both the States to sort out bilateral issues and finalise modalities for implementing the 1966 Agreement as per the current prevailing situation.