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Title: Need to expedite the implementation of inter-linking peninsular rivers project to check recurring floods in Orissa – Laid.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK) : The Government is an affidavit before the Supreme Court of India has stated that it would be able to link the Peninsular rivers by the year 2035 and the Himalayan rivers by 2043. The National Water Development Agency, a Government of India body set up in 1962, has prepared a pre-feasibility report on the linking of Maharani with Godavari through a canal which to a great extent, will solve the flood crisis in Mahanadi basin while ridding the drought-prone areas in Andhra Pradesh through transfer of surplus water.

The link canal will off take from Manibhadra and Satapada Hills along Mahanadi and connect with Rushikulya and Vansadhara and thereon till Godavari in the subsequent phase. As per NWDAs preliminary estimate this link canal will cost about Rs. 3616 crore.

I request the Union Government to extend full support and expedite the implementation of the interlinking of the Peninsular Rivers Project to mitigate the problems of flood affected people of Orissa, without any further loss of time.