

**Title:** Need to advise Government of Chhatisgarh to share Mahanadi water with Orissa – laid.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTUCK) : Recently there has been acute water crisis in the Mahanadi basin area. The Orissa Government had requested the Water Resources Ministry in July 2000 for issuing a direction to the Madhya Pradesh Government to allow the flow of certain amount of river water to Orissa during non-monsoon period for irrigation and power generation. It is an admitted fact that 30 major and medium irrigation projects and 10 barrages have already been constructed by erstwhile Madhya Pradesh Government in the upper catchment area of Mahanadi intercepting the inflow of water to the Hirakund reservoir. Besides 4 more medium irrigation projects were under construction and there were proposals for construction of 5 new dams and one barrage.

I would urge upon the Government to impress upon the Government of Chhattisgarh not to construct dams and barrages without consulting the Orissa Government and to work towards an agreement for sharing of Mahanadi water. As there is no inter-state agreement of Board to advise sharing of Mahanadi water, I urge upon the Government to take up the matter and direct the Chhatisgarh Government to allow flow of water to Orissa in Mahanadi during the summer season.