

**Tribunal for resolving Mahanadi dispute**

3512. SHRI PRASANNAACHARYA:

SHRI DILIPKUMAR TIRKEY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court has directed Government to constitute a Tribunal within thirty days to resolve Mahanadi water dispute between Chhattisgarh and Odisha;

(b) if so, what steps Government has taken to implement the order of Supreme Court and by when the Tribunal will be constituted and come into existence and the details regarding its terms of reference; and

(c) whether Government will direct the Chhattisgarh Government to stop further construction of barrages over Mahanadi till the proposed Tribunal gives its verdict and if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL):

(a) and (b) The State of Odisha filed complaint dated 19.11.2016 under Section 3 of the Inter State River Water Disputes (ISRWD) Act, 1956 in respect of Mahanadi basin to the Central Government. Odisha also filed Original Suit No. 1/2017 in the Supreme Court of India for constitution of a Water Dispute Tribunal for adjudication of water disputes between Odisha and Chhattisgarh. The Original Suit was disposed of in the final hearing on 23.01.2018 with directions to the Central Government to constitute Water Dispute Tribunal for adjudication of the water dispute between the concerned States within a period of one month from the date of order. Accordingly, the Central Government has constituted Mahanadi Water Disputes Tribunal vide Notification No. S.O. 1114(E) dated 12.03.2018 and the reference of the water disputes has been made to the Tribunal on 21.03.2018 as per Section 5(1) of the ISRWD Act, 1956.

(c) The Supreme Court in its Order dated 23.1.2018 in Original Suit No.1 of 2017 has *inter alia* directed the plaintiff that all the presentations and adjudications be submitted to the proposed Water Disputes Tribunal to be constituted by the Central Government.