

Title : Regarding connecting Rahul and Utei Rivers under the National River Linking Project for irrigation

SHRIMATI MALVIKA DEVI (KALAHANDI): Thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak today in the Parliament.

Madam, through you, I would like to put forward a request for Kalahandi district for executing a very old project which was surveyed and put up for execution connecting Rahul and Utei river under the National River Linking Project for irrigation purposes at Karlamunda and Madanpur Rampur blocks of Kalahandi district. This will solve the drought situation which affects the poor farmers and their families because of water shortage. It will also improve irrigation and provide water to villages which are completely rice-farming areas and totally dependent on rain water and river water. It will increase the ground water level and allow people to fill the water tanks which stay dry for most of the year causing major water problems and shortages in villages. Irrigation water is a big problem of the farmers in both the blocks of Karlamunda and Madanpur Rampur of Kalahandi. As you all know, Kalahandi was once very infamous as the poor and famine-stricken district of India. But today Kalahandi has worked very hard and developed, and it is wanting to become the highest rice-producing district of Odisha but a few blocks still face water insufficiency.

Hence, I would request you once again to please sanction this project as it would irrigate two big blocks of Kalahandi ? Karlamunda and Madanpur Rampur. Thank you, Madam.