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Title: Need to supply water from Indus basin to Gujarat.

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (KUTCH): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to raise an important issue regarding allocation of Indus Basin Water to Gujarat.

India signed a water agreement with Pakistan in 1960 with the mediation of the World Bank for distribution of Indus water. This agreement is called "Indus Water Treaty". According to the international water agreement, waters of the Eastern Rivers of Indus basin, i.e. Sutlej, Ravi and Beas are allocated to India and waters of Western Rivers of Indus basin - Chinab, Jhelum and Sindhu are allocated to Pakistan. The water of Eastern Rivers is estimated at 17.17 MAF. This quantity has been allocated in 1981 by the Central Government to various states, except Gujarat though it falls in the Indus basin and hence is entitled to Indus basin water.

From the above facts, it is clear that injustice has been done to Gujarat by not considering the State for the allocation of water from eastern rivers, i.e Ravi, Beas and Sutlej even though Kutch is a part of the Indus basin. The allocation of Eastern River waters to various states has been reviewed from time to time based on reassessment of the availability of water and geographical situation of the party states.

The Government of Gujarat has requested the Central Government to do needful in the matter. Due weightage has been given to Rajasthan considering its peculiar geographical situation and hydrological condition. As the Kutch region of Gujarat State has conditions similar to Rajasthan, the Indus waters should be reallocated including proportionate allocation to Gujarat. The hon. Minister of Water Resources, Government of Gujarat has written to the hon Union Minister for Water Resources in this regard on 7th February, 2008.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to take immediate necessary action for allocating water from Indus basin to Gujarat proportionately.