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Title: Need for early release of Central assistance to Odisha under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): The Central Water Commission had recommended to release central assistance of Rs. 297.22 crore for Subarnarekha, Kanupur, Lower Indra, Upper Indravati Extension, Ret, Rengali Right Bank Canal, Integrated Anandpur Barrage and Renuka Irrigation Projects and Rs. 48.33 crore for Flood Control Projects to the State of Odisha during the year 2014-15 under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP). However, no central assistance has been released so far. Further, the Union Government had to release a sum of Rs. 639.01 crore to the State under AIBP for the years 2012-13 and 2013-14 but only Rs. 1481 crore has been released so far resulting in extra burden on State Exchequer on account of Major and Medium Irrigation and Flood Control Projects of the State. I, therefore, urge the Union Government to release central assistance owed to the State of Odisha under AIBP for the years 2012-12, 2013-14 at the earliest.