

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1201  
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2002  
CHARGES FOR ON FARM DEVELOPMENT WORKS  
SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE;VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether any agreement was reached amongst the States on the Union Government's proposal to introduce mandatory charges of minimum 10 per cent in the Tenth Plan from beneficiary farmers for On-Farm Development Works including construction of field channels and reclamation of waterlogged areas;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the other measures being considered to reach an agreement on this proposal?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) to (c) Deriving from the recommendations of the Working Group of the Planning Commission on 'Private sector and beneficiary participation' and the suggestions of the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of water Resources has proposed to introduce an element of contribution to the extent of 10% by the beneficiary farmers for components such as field channels, reclamation of waterlogged areas and renovation / desilting of Minor Irrigation Tanks during the X Plan. Involvement of beneficiaries through such contribution would encourage a sense of ownership in the assets created. In the Conference of State Secretaries in-charge of Command Area Development Programme held on 17th June, 2002 at New Delhi, most of the States agreed that the proposed 10% beneficiary contribution could be in the form of labour rather than cash.