

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:737
ANSWERED ON:17.05.2000
NATIONAL WATER POLICY
DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA;RAGHUNATH JHA

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the revised draft of the National Water Policy was approved by the National Water Board in 1998;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the revised policy was to be placed before the Water Resources Council for consideration but the same has not been done as yet;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government propose to implement the new national water policy at the earliest; and
- (f) if so, the time by which the policy is likely to come into force?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (DR. C. P. THAKUR)

(a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Parts (a) to (f) of Starred Question No.+737 to be answered in the Lok Sabha on 17.05.2000 regarding National Water Policy.

The National Water Board in its tenth meeting held on 29.10.1998 had reviewed the existing National Water Policy and formulated an updated and revised draft National Water Policy for consideration and adoption by the National Water Resources Council (NWRC). The draft policy was included in the Agenda of the 4th meeting of the NWRC, scheduled for 4th April, 2000 which has been postponed. Implementation of the new National Water Policy depends on its adoption by the National Water Resources Council.

Important areas / aspects proposed to be incorporated in the existing policy inter alia include inter-sectoral water allocation particularly for diverse uses of water, inter-State river Water State Disputes, water sharing amongst states, multi-sectoral perspective and participatory approach towards resources planning and management, private sector participation and integration of quantity, quality and environmental aspects in the water resources management, resettlement and rehabilitation of project affected persons, mandatory operation and maintenance funding and related policies for revenue generation and reforms related to legislation, institutions, incentives /disincentives, environment technology etc. under the water resources sector.