

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2950

ANSWERED ON:11.08.2010

CONFERENCE ON WATER SECTOR

Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar;Swamygowda Shri N Cheluvaraya Swamy

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a Conference of Principal Secretaries/Secretaries of States and UTs for the development and management of water sector was held in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (c) the action taken by the Government on the suggestions/decisions arrived at the conference;
- (d) whether the Union Government has issued directions/instructions for better management and supply of water; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the State Governments thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA)

(a) to (c): Yes, Sir. The annual conference of Principal Secretaries/ Secretaries (Irrigation and Water Resources and Command Area Development Departments) of the States/ Union Territories was held on 14.07.2010 to discuss the progress in respect of ongoing schemes/ programmes on National Water Mission, Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme(AIBP), Command Area Development and Water Management Programme (CADWM), Flood Management Programme (FMP), Ground Water Development and Management, Repair, Renovation and Restoration(RRR) of Water Bodies and Externally Aided Projects (EAD). During the meeting, strategies for efficient and timely implementation of the projects were discussed.

The main suggestions raised during the conference and instructions given to States/ UTs were as below:

To increase the water use efficiency by 20%. Necessary steps have to be taken by States/UTs to achieve the goal.

All proposals for release of 1st and 2nd installments on central assistance under NWM, AIBP, CADWM, FMP, RRR of water are to be submitted well in time to ensure the achievement of physical targets.

The State Governments have been requested to expedite submission of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) of each Command Area Development Projects of a State, to enhance budget provision in State Plan and also to Constitute a State level Monitoring Committee to monitor the progress of the for Command Area Development and Water Management (CAD&WM) programme.

States may initiate action for speedy implementation of Scheme of Dug well Recharge to ground water.

Integrated Ground Water Management Programme needs to combine augmentation of ground water resources in over-exploited and critical areas and ground water development in safe areas having good ground water potential.

The States/UTs have been advised to make efforts to improve the slow progress of Hydrology Project Phase II being implemented in 13 states and 8 central agencies.

The Principal Secretaries/ Secretaries of the States have assured full cooperation and appropriate follow-up actions on the above mentioned issues.

(d) & (e): The Ministry of Water Resources continues to make every effort for the successful implementation of the Government's policy on the management and supply of water by holding consultations, meetings and issuing suitable directions/instructions to all the States/UTs from time to time. The response from the States/UTs have always been quite positive.