GOVERNMENT OF INDIA WATER RESOURCES LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4773 ANSWERED ON:08.12.2010 INDUS WATER TO GUJARAT Kanubhai Patel Jayshreeben

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kutch region of Gujarat is part of Sindhu basin;

(b) if so, whether the Government has received any representation from the Government of Gujarat regarding allocation of Indus water to Gujarat; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

Answer

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

(a) Kutch region of Gujarat is not considered to form a part of the Indus Basin as per the present available basin maps or the Irrigation Commission Report of 1972.

(b) Yes, Madam.

(c) In his letter dated 07.02.08 addressed to the Hon'ble Union Minister of Water Resources, Hon'ble Minister of Water Supply, Water Resources, Urban Development and Urban Housing, Government of Gujarat had referred to earlier letters dated 23.03.04 and 01.08.05 from the State Government requesting for appropriate action by Central Government for allocation of Indus water (i.e. Ravi-Beas-Sutlej water). The then Hon'ble Union Minister of Water Resources in his reply dated 18.03.08 indicated the prevalent water issues amongst the present beneficiary States of Eastern Rivers, some of which are before the Hon'ble Supreme Court including a Presidential Reference on the Punjab Termination of Agreement Act, 2004 enacted by Punjab Vidhan Sabha.It was further stated that under the circumstances, till the existing issues get resolved and the present beneficiary States are in a position to spare some water, it might not be appropriate to open any issue for reallocation of water.

Some water issues among the present beneficiary States of the rivers Ravi, Beas and Sutlej are already before the Hon'ble Supreme Court for decision. Any new suggestion for reallocation of these waters is dependent on the decision on these issues and the present beneficiary States agreeing to spare some water.