

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:613
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2011
WATER AUDIT
Hooda Shri Deepender Singh

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any initiative to enforce water auditing in domestic as well as agricultural use;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any legal provisions stipulated to ensure optimum usage of water both for agricultural and domestic purposes;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the measures the Government has taken to increase awareness among farmers for efficient and optimum use of water both for agricultural and domestic purposes?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Central Water Commission has prepared "General Guidelines for Water Audit & Water Conservation for Domestic, Irrigation and Industrial Purposes". The guidelines broadly cover various steps of water audit including water supply usage study, process study, system audit, discharge analysis and water audit report. Aspects related to irrigation, domestic and industrial usages of water have been covered in the report. The guidelines have been circulated to the States. Government of Maharashtra has initiated the process of water auditing in the irrigation sector. Further, promotion of mandatory water audit including those for drinking water purposes has been included as an important strategy in the draft mission document for National Water Mission.

(c) & (d) Water is a subject managed by the State Governments as per Entry 17 of List II of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution. At present the Government of India does not have any law to ensure optimum uses of water for both agricultural and domestic purposes.

(e) Ministry of Water Resources initiated Farmer Participatory Action Research Programme (FPARP) at 5000 demonstration sites at a cost of Rs. 24.46 crore in the year 2007-08 with an objective to enhance water use efficiency in agriculture. This programme was taken up in 25 States/UTs of the country with the help of 60 Agriculture Universities/Indian Council of Agricultural Research Institutes/International Crop Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics, Water and Land Management Institutes and Non-Government Organizations. Considering the overall benefit of the programme in terms of water saving, FPARP has been extended for conducting 5000 additional demonstrations at a cost of Rs. 25 crore during remaining period of XI Five Year Plan.

Ministry of Water Resources has taken up a scheme "Information, Education and Communication (IEC)" during the XI Five Year Plan under which various activities related to mass awareness are being launched. Further, various State Governments have also taken up the programme for mass awareness in respect of scarcity of water as also the need for maintaining the quality of water resources. Ministry of Water Resources has actively associated various academic institutions, NGOs etc. in the programme for mass awareness.