GOVERNMENT OF INDIA WATER RESOURCES LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:859 ANSWERED ON:04.08.2011 SHARING OF RIVER WATER Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the present policy on sharing of water of major rivers among the basin States;

(b) whether the water share is not being given to the downstream States by the upstream States;

(c) if so, the facts thereof and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the State of Rajasthan has not got its share of water from the river Satluj, river Yamuna and river Ganga;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) The National Water Policy 2002 provides that the water sharing / distribution amongst the States should be guided by a national perspective with due regard to water resources availability and needs within the river basin.

(b) & (c) The shares of the basin states in a river basin are normally decided either by agreement among the basin states or by decisions of a tribunal and are given effect to by themselves. In certain cases regulatory bodies with participation of representatives of the concerned basin states are also established to facilitate the implementation of terms of agreement /decision of Tribunal.

(d) & (e) Issue of Rajasthan not getting its share of Satluj water has not come to the notice of Government so far. As far as River Yamuna/ Ganga is concerned, Rajasthan does not get its share of water as allocated from Hathnikund Barrage as the mode of conveyance of water to Rajasthan Border has not been agreed to by Haryana. Also, Rajasthan does not get its full share from Okhla barrage because of enroute losses and unauthorised lifting of water by Haryana farmers.

(f) With a view to address the issue of supply of Rajasthan's share of water from Hathnikund Barrage, Upper Yamuna Review Committee during its 3rd meeting held on 12.04.2006 decided to setup an "Empowered Committee" of Irrigation/Water Resources Secretaries from the state of Rajasthan, Haryana, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh to have a fresh look at the issue of providing water to Rajasthan from Hathnikund/Tajewala, keeping in view the decision of the Upper Yamuna River Board (UYRB). The report of the Empowered Committee has been considered by the Upper Yamuna Review Committee in its 4th meeting held on 19.7.2011. On the issue of supply of Rajasthan's share of water from Okhla Barrage, it was agreed to have joint inspection of the canal reach in Haryana territory by Rajasthan and Haryana officers.