

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:501  
ANSWERED ON:08.09.2011  
NATIONAL WATER POLICY  
Yadav Shri Madhusudan

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the National Water Policy, 2002, mandates inter basin transfer of water and governance of water resources by national perspectives;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to formulate a law to ensure minimum water flow in perennial streams for maintaining ecology in pursuance of the National Water Policy 2002;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WATER RESOURCES ( SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 501 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 8.9.2011 REGARDING NATIONAL WATER POLICY

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. Paragraph 3.5 of the National Water policy, 2002 states that water should be made available to water short areas by transfer from other areas including transfers from one river basin to another, based on a national perspective, after taking into account the requirements of the areas / basins.

(c) to (e) There is no proposal at present before the Government for formulating a law to ensure minimum water flow for maintaining ecology. The Central Government has constituted Water Quality Assessment Authority (WQAA) under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. A Working Group was set up by the WQAA to advice on the issues relating to minimum flows in rivers to conserve the ecosystem. The working group has submitted the draft report on minimum flows incorporating water quality aspects. The report has been referred to a Sub-Committee for review and interaction / consultation with the State Governments.