

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5940

ANSWERED ON:08.09.2011

INCLUSION OF WATER IN CONCURRENT LIST

Kumar Shri P.;Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal;Lingam Shri P.;Nagorao Shri Dudhgaonkar Ganeshrao;Panda Shri Prabodh;Sivasami Shri C.;Sukur Shri Jadhav Baliram;Venugopal Shri P.

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is true that a high powered panel appointed by the Government to look into transparent allocation mechanism for water has recommended for inclusion of the subject 'Water' in the Concurrent List;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the panel has also recommended allotment of water on market-linked basis rather than on the basis of administered pricing model;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether this panel has also suggested the Government to amend the Constitution to gain more control over water resources;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government on the above recommendations?

Answer

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

- (a) Yes, Madam.
- (b) The terms of reference of the Committee on Allocation of Natural Resources (CANR) are attached as Annexure – I.
- (c) No, Madam.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) & (f) The Committee sees an urgent need to have a comprehensive national legislation on water. This can be either done through bringing water under the Concurrent List and then framing the appropriate legislation; or, by obtaining consensus from a majority of the States that such a "framework law" is necessary and desirable as a union enactment.
- (g) On submission of the recommendations of CANR the Group of Ministers (GoM) desired that Committee of Secretaries (CoS) to examine the report and give its recommendations to the GoM. Thereafter the Committee of Secretaries met on 9th August, 2011 and decided to further deliberate recommendations on CANR in the next meeting to be convened soon.

Annexure I

(Annexure referred in reply to Unstarred Question No 5940 to be answered on 8.9.2011 in the Lok Sabha regarding Inclusion of water in Concurrent List)

THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE ON ALLOCATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES (CANR) ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- i. To identify major natural resources which are allotted / allocated /distributed by the Government of India and the institutional framework for utilization of such resources;
- ii. To examine the efficacy and suitability of the existing legal and regulatory framework and rules and procedures in this regard;
- iii. To suggest measures to optimize the benefits of such utilization for all stakeholders, while ensuring sustainability of the resources;
- iv. To suggest measures for promoting transparency and enhancing effectiveness in allocation, pricing and utilization of these resources;

v. To suggest changes in the legal, institutional and regulatory framework to implement the above recommendations; and

vi. Any other issue(s) related to the above