

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2586
ANSWERED ON:29.03.2012
UTILISATION OF SURFACE WATER
Yadav Shri Madhusudan

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any guidelines relating to utilisation of surface water have been given in the National Water Policy (NWP);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the basis on which water is distributed from water resources structures for various purposes;
- (d) whether it is necessary that such water structures should be multipurpose; and
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

- (a) to (c) The National Water Policy, 2002 stipulates that in the planning and operation of water resources system, the first priority should be given for drinking water, followed by irrigation, hydro-power, ecology, agro-industries and non-agricultural industries, navigation and other uses, in that order. However, the priorities could be modified or added if warranted by the area/ region specific considerations.
- (d) & (e) As per the National Water Policy, 2002 water resource development projects should as far as possible be planned and developed as multi-purpose projects. This is necessary to derive maximum benefit from available topology and water resources.