

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2636
ANSWERED ON:29.03.2012
WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY
Singh Shri Jagada Nand

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Water Quality Assessment Authority (WQAA) has been entrusted with the responsibility to maintain minimum flow of river systems for survival of aquatic life; and

(b) if so, the details of the rivers for which minimum flow has been ensured so far after the constitution of the WQAA?

Answer

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

(a) As per the constitution of Water Quality Assessment Authority (WQAA), (annexed), the function of WQAA is 'to direct the agencies (Government/Local Bodies/Non-Governmental Organisations) to maintain minimum discharge of water for sustenance of aquatic life forms in riverine system'.

(b) Water is a state subject and the states are expected to ensure this. WQAA is yet to issue any directives in this regard.