GOVERNMENT OF INDIA WATER RESOURCES LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:42 ANSWERED ON:22.11.2012 INDUS WATER TREATY Patil Shri C. R.

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government considers necessary a review of the Indus Water Treaty, 1960 since the country is reeling under a growing water crisis leaving much part of it parched and thirsty;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the said treaty allocated 80.52 per cent of the waters of the six rivers in the system for Pakistan keeping for India just remaining 19.48 per cent of water share; and
- (d) if so, the Government's reaction to the emerging situation due to scarcity of river water?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

- (a) There is no such consideration in the Ministry of Water Resources.
- (b)Does not arise.
- (c)The Indus Waters Treaty 1960 did not make any volumetric allocation. The waters of the Eastern Rivers (Ravi, Beas and Sutlej including their tributaries) are available to India for unrestricted use. The waters of the Western Rivers are generally available to Pakistan except for certain specified uses by India. As assessed during the negotiations of the Treaty, the annual average flows of the Eastern Rivers and Western Rivers were about 32.8 Million Acre Feet (MAF) and 135.6 MAF respectively.
- (d)Considering the increasing demand, available water resources need to be utilized optimally and judiciously.