

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1047
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2012
WATER IN CONCURRENT LIST
Mahato Shri Narahari; Tirkey Shri Manohar

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ashok Chawla Committee has suggested to bring water from the State List to the Concurrent List;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there are concerns that the acceptance of the recommendations would lead to more centralisation and creation of problems in water management at local level in the States; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. The Committee Chaired by Shri Ashok Chawla submitted its report on 31.5.2011. The Committee inter alia recommended as follows: -

'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.'

(c) & (d) The proposal to bring water in the Union / Concurrent List was earlier examined by the two Commissions on Centre-State Relations chaired by Justice R.S. Sarkaria and Justice M.M. Punchhi respectively. The said proposal did not find favour with either of the two Commissions. The Government has not mooted any proposal to bring water from the State List to the Concurrent List.