

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2130
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2012
SET UP OF NIDA AND NWC
Bishnoi Shri Kuldeep

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up a National Irrigation Development Authority (NIDA) and a National Water Commission (NWC);
- (b) if so, the salient features thereof along with their terms of reference; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to overhaul and regulate the entire water distribution system and determine norms for maximum usage of water for various activities including norms for effluent treatment and limits on extraction from local water sources?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

- (a) The Central Government has no proposal at present to set up a National Irrigation Development Authority and a National Water Commission.
- (b) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a) above.
- (c) Overhaul and regulation of the water distribution system are matters within the jurisdiction of the State Governments. However, the National Water Policy (2002), adopted by the National Water Resources Council, stipulates policy recommendations for optimum development and management of water resources in the country. The draft National Water Policy (2012) also recommends evolution of a system of benchmarks, water footprints and maximizing efficiency of water usage for various activities. Besides, the Central Government has also circulated a model Bill for regulation and control of ground water development for appropriate enactment by the State Governments. Norms of effluent treatment are determined by Central and State Pollution Control Boards. Limiting extraction from local water resources is within the competence of the State Governments.