GOVERNMENT OF INDIA WATER RESOURCES LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3431 ANSWERED ON:13.12.2012 WATER MANAGEMENT Choudhry Smt. Shruti

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a major problem in better management of water resources are the weak institutional and legal structures related to water; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the steps taken to overcome the same in future?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b) There is a notion that the current institutional and legal structures that deal with water in the country are inadequate, fragmented and need urgent reform. Reforms in the water resources sector is an ongoing process and its planning, development and management has to be aligned with current realities.

Several steps for augmentation, conservation and efficient management to ensure sustainability of water resources are conceived, planned and implemented by the State Governments. For supplementing the efforts of the State Governments, Government of India provides technical and financial assistance to State Governments to encourage sustainable development and efficient management of water resources through various schemes and programmes namely "Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP), "Command Area Development and Water Management Programme", "Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies" and Artificial Recharge to Ground Water. The Government of India has also launched the National Water Mission with the objective of 'conservation of water, minimizing wastage and ensuring its more equitable distribution both across and within States through integrated water resources development and management'.