

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2972

ANSWERED ON:14.03.2013

ROLE OF CONSUMER GROUPS

Gawali Patil Smt. Bhavana Pundlikrao ;Nagorao Shri Dudhgaonkar Ganeshrao

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to undertake conservation of water and other development work through associated consumer groups; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government for motivating the said groups?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. The draft National Water Policy (2012) adopted by the National Water Resources Council at its sixth Meeting held on 28.12.2012 recommends that community based water management should be institutionalized and strengthened. The draft Policy further recommends that a national campaign for water literacy needs to be started for capacity building of different stakeholders in the water sector.

Fifteen States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh have either enacted exclusive legislation or amended their Irrigation Acts for involvement of farmers in irrigation management. So far 63,167 Water Users' Associations have been formed in various States covering an area of 14.623 million hectares under various commands of irrigation projects.