

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4073
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2013
RIGHT TO WATER
Nirupam Shri Sanjay Brijkishorilal

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether many experts and Non- Governmental Organisations (NGOs) working in the water sector have urged the Union Government to recognize peoples access to safe water as a fundamental human right;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the said experts and NGOs have demanded to do away with the clause in the Draft National Water Policy, 2012 which suggests that water services be privatised; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

- (a) & (b) Yes, Madam. Access to safe water for drinking and other domestic needs being a problem in many areas, there have been demands from various quarters especially from NGOs for recognizing peoples access to safe water as a fundamental human right.
- (c) No, Madam. There is no clause in the National Water Policy, 2012 which recommends privatization of water services.
- (d) Does not arise in view of reply to part (c).