

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:782
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2013
MOU IN WATER MANAGEMENT
Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a meeting of high level experts of India and Iraq was held recently to finalize the Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in the area of water management;
- (b) if so, the details of the agreements reached between the two countries and in the said MoU; and
- (c) the time by which the agreements are likely to be implemented?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) Yes, Madam. A meeting with Iraqi delegation led by Hon'ble Minister for Water Resources, Government of Republic of Iraq was held on 23rd May, 2013 at New Delhi to finalise the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on bilateral cooperation in the area of water resources development and management.

(b) The MoU envisages cooperation by collaboration and sharing of expertise in the areas of project hydrology, practicing hydrology and hydrological modelling; applications of remote sensing and Geographical Information System (GIS) in hydrology and water resources; integrated water resources development and management; flood and drought management; irrigation and drainage; surface and groundwater management and development; minor irrigation; modernization/renovation of old irrigation schemes; hydrometeorology; watershed, lakes and wetlands development; dam safety and surveillance; reservoir regulation; training and capacity building; micro irrigation, etc.

(c) The Memorandum of Understanding is proposed to be signed during the forthcoming visit of Iraqi Prime Minister to India in the month of August, 2013. The MoU envisages formation of a Joint Working Group within 3 months of its signing which will carry out the activities mentioned therein. Necessary action on the areas of cooperation will commence thereafter.