

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6854
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2015
INTER STATE WATER DISPUTES
Vellaigounder Shri Elumalai

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that large number of Inter State Water Disputes have been pending in various courts for the final decision;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the disputes are resolved in timebound manner;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to amend Inter State River Water Disputes Act, 1956; and
- (d) if so, the details and status thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (PROF. SANWAR LAL JAT)

(a) & (b) Under Article 262 of the Constitution of India, Parliament has enacted Inter- State Water Disputes Act, 1956 for adjudication of disputes relating to waters of inter -State rivers and river valley thereof. When any request under the said Act is received from any State Government in respect of any water dispute on the inter-State rivers and the Central Government is of the opinion that the water dispute cannot be settled by negotiations, the Central Government constitutes a Water Disputes Tribunal for the adjudication of the water dispute. On the complaint made by the State Governments, the Central Government has, so far, set up 08 Tribunals to settle water disputes among the States under the Inter-State River Water Disputes (ISRWD) Act, 1956. The inter-State river water sharing disputes relating to Godavari, Krishna (of May 1976), and Narmada have been settled with the publication of decisions of respective Tribunals. The present status and details of various Inter-State water disputes over the sharing of river water in the Tribunal/Courts is at Annexure. Further, the project specific inter-state issues relating to these basins continue to engage the attention of Central Government/Supreme Court and are dealt with on a case to case basis by appropriate authorities.

(c) & (d) Inter-State River Water Dispute Act, 1956 has already been amended in the year 2002 in consultation with the State Governments, whereby adjudication of water disputes by the Tribunals was made time-bound. The proposal to further amend ISRWD Act, 1956 is at a conceptual stage.