

Government of India
Ministry of Water Resources

SUMMARY RECORDS OF PROCEEDING OF 6TH MEETING OF NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES COUNCIL HELD ON 28TH DECEMBER, 2012 IN NEW DELHI

The 6th Meeting of National Water Resources Council (NWRC) was held on 28th December, 2012 at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh. The list of members of NWRC, their representatives and Officers, who attended the meeting, is at **Annex - I**

Welcoming the Chairman, Members of the Council and other participants, the **Hon'ble Minister for Water Resources, Shri Harish Rawat**, explained the salient features of the Draft National Water Policy (2012). He stated that the draft National Water Policy (2012) was the result of wide consultation held with all stakeholders including consultation with Members of Parliament, Academia, Non-Governmental Organizations, Corporate Leaders and Representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions. Enumerating the challenges in the water sector, he called for a common integrated approach governed by certain basic principles so that the concerns get addressed uniformly in different parts of the country, ensuring equity and social justice. He emphasized that integrated water resources management was essential for ensuring optimum development of water resources in the country for which environmental, social and economic aspects should be integral part of the project formulation, planning and implementation. The full text of the welcome address is at **Annex – II**.

Delivering his opening remarks, **Hon'ble Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh** stated that the draft National Water Policy (2012) was an effort to focus attention on the looming crisis in the water sector and would lay a road map for the future based on the fundamental principles of equality, sustainability and good governance. He called for paradigm shift in the approach to the management of water resources. Recalling the deliberations at the National Development Council meeting held the previous day, he stated that outlays for the water sector, which had been increased substantially, would deliver only if they were matched with effective outcomes through better management. He, therefore, asked the Members of the Council to rise above political, ideological and regional differences and also to move away from a narrow project-centric approach to a broader holistic approach to issues of water management. He allayed apprehensions about alleged encroachment upon the constitutional guaranteed rights of the

States or centralization of water management through proposed national legal frame work. He called for collective support of all States and Union Territories as the Indian economy would face daunting challenges in the water sector, both in terms of quantity as well as quality, emphasizing the need to take urgent and pragmatic decisions. The full text of his opening remarks is at **Annex - III**.

Shri Tarun Gogoi, Chief Minister of Assam, commended Ministry of Water Resources for attempting to review and develop the National Water Policy to address the challenges of the emerging imperatives before the nation to ensure sustainable development. He welcomed the proposal to set up the Brahmaputra River Valley Authority. He stated that while the Constitution of India entrusted the use and management of water substantially to the States, it was important to arrive at a common understanding on the principles governing water use through the National Water Resources Policy. He suggested that the use of river water should be based on concept of territorial integrity, which reinforced the commonality of purpose. He, further, stated that the lower riparian States also had the right to natural flow of river and upper riparian could use it but must allow the water to flow unchanged in quantity and quality. He emphasized that the flood management issue, being of paramount importance for safety of life and property of the people, should be given mandatory consideration and weightage in all hydroelectric and other water based projects and schemes. He recommended that erosion should be considered as a national disaster for assistance under national disaster relief fund. He urged that the draft policy should emphasize drainage management, extensive soil conservation, afforestation, water management combined with regional flood warning systems and adoption of flood moderation measures along with well planned erosion management. The full text of his speech is at **Annex – IV**.

Shri S. Prakash Singh Badal, Chief Minister of Punjab stated that water, being a State subject, should be left to the States to manage and any revision in National Water policy should be based on the existing Constitutional provisions and well recognized/universally accepted principles. He suggested that distribution of water resources should be and must be based on universally accepted Riparian Principles. He, further, stated that establishment of water tariff system, fixation of criteria for water charges, statutory empowerment of Water Users Association, pricing of electricity, establishment of a Water Regulatory Authority were matters which should be left to the States. He opined that inter basin transfer of water based on equality and social justice would be in conflict with exclusive rights of people living in basin areas. He

opposed the concept of integrated planning and management of river basins as it would be direct infringement on the freedom of the States to plan, formulate and execute water supply schemes as per their needs. The full text of his speech is at **Annex – V**.

Shri Prithviraj Chavan, Chief Minister of Maharashtra appreciated the initiative of Ministry of Water Resources for revisiting the 2002 policy and stated that Maharashtra had been in the forefront of implementation of many water sector reforms and initiatives that were indicated in the National Water Policy of 2002. He noted that many of the provisions in the draft 2012 policy were already part of Maharashtra State Water Policy, 2003 or being implemented as development policy by Maharashtra. He specifically supported the policy recommendations with regard to environmental flow requirement and Water Framework Law. He proposed planning of basins/sub-basins on the basis of the average annual water availability subject to limitations put in by the awards of the river water disputes tribunals. He requested the Government of India to consider an appropriate package to meet the evolving needs of water sector reforms, such as promoting recycle and re-use of water, incentivizing economic use of water, installation of electronic meters, etc. The full text of his speech is at **Annex - VI**.

Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Governor of Punjab and Administrator of Union Territory of Chandigarh endorsed the policy recommendation contained in the draft National Water Policy (2012). He emphasized accordance of higher priority to drinking water, speedy resolution of inter-State water disputes and fostering spirit of co-ordination amongst States for better water management.

Shri Lal Thanhawla, Chief Minister of Mizoram congratulated the Ministry of Water Resources for bringing the draft National Water Policy (2012) before the National Water Resources Council for review and finalization. He stated that water was a reflection of land use and health of our water was the principle measure of how we live on the land. He suggested incorporation of unique needs and aspiration of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections of the society. He also called for policies to address the specific problems of hill areas like sudden run off, weak water holding capacity of soil, erosion and sediment transport, recharging of hill slope aquifers that would greatly benefit the hilly regions. He emphasized quick adoption of National Water Policy (2012) and agreement on the manner in which the policy should be administered, including its relationship with several State agencies

presently having responsibilities in the field of water resources. The full text of his speech is at **Annex – VII.**

Shri Manohar Parrikar, Chief Minister of Goa informed about the several initiatives, such as, State Water Policy, Goa Ground Water Regulation Act 2002, etc., taken by his State for better management of water resources. He objected to the policy of Inter Basin Transfer of water that did not take into account long term in basin needs of the State from which outside the basin diversion were proposed. He stated that river basin organizations could not be effective mechanism in resolving disputes between basin States since unfettered powers with no accountability to the State legislatures, far from paving the way for resolving disputes between basin States, would only aggravate the disputes. Referring to Goa's disputes with Karnataka and Maharashtra, he urged that vision for which the policy was envisaged should be implemented by the Centre and States in right perspective. The full text of his speech is at **Annex – VIII.**

Shri Jagadish Shettar, Chief Minister of Karnataka, congratulated the Government of India for bringing out the draft National Water Policy (2012), which was more holistic and addressed various complex and multi-dimensional facets of the water resources in the country. He proposed that water framework law should be based on providing broad guidelines rather than specific directions taking care not to infringe on any of the States' right to manage water resources for their own use. Regarding River Basin Authority, he suggested evolution of suitable mechanism which would facilitate the basin States to decide on the equitable and justifiable share based on the ground realities rather than creating more and more Authorities. He also called for revisiting Inter-State Water Disputes Act, since the present laws with their historic origin under British rule, had several loose ends. He emphasized the need to bring in efficiency in terms of better utilization of resources, improving conveyance efficiency and the use of micro irrigation system. The project planning should include 3Es (Engineering, Economics and Ecology) dealt with a holistic approach, he added. He endorsed the idea of permanent water tribunal and its benches at all State headquarters on the lines of Green Bench. The goals of water resources policy and the 12th five year plan needed to be translated into key water resources policy and strategies, programmes and customized for the major basins, and then, specified to the particular attributes of various sub basins. He requested the Government of India to support States with technical and financial resources to implement the policy in an effective manner. The full text of his speech is at **Annex –IX.**

Shri Bhupinder Singh Hooda, Chief Minister of Haryana thanked Hon'ble Prime Minister for convening the National Water Resources Council meeting and suggested that the council should meet more frequently and also deliberate on its other functions as well, including the modalities of resolving inter-State water related disputes. He suggested that the proposed national framework law in the draft policy could be misconstrued as an encroachment on the States' constitutional jurisdiction and suggested that such framework law could at best be in the form of a set of general guiding principle. He suggested that major party State, as Haryana was in the context of Ravi and Beas rivers, should be part of the river basin authorities. He stated that the idea of setting up of Water Regulatory Authorities appeared quite logical but suggested that these must not be allowed to become unnecessary obstacle in the development process. Welcoming the proposal of setting up of permanent water dispute tribunal, he called for such mechanisms that the decisions of the various tribunals and courts were implemented in a time bound manner. He also called for careful consideration of the suggestions for managing water as a common pool community resource since in the absence of well defined protocols, it would be counterproductive. He also emphasized the need to look at the available cutting edge technologies, especially in the agriculture and horticulture sector as without that the aim of water conservation would remain a distant dream. Suggesting incentivization for adoption of efficient and modern technologies, he stated that the time had come to think of water efficient buildings and water efficient industries, as well. He, further, stated that a dedicated national fund for all types of measures needed for protection and conservation of water resources would help in carrying forward the research and development in this important area. The full text of his speech is at **Annex –X**.

Shri Arjun Munda, Chief Minister of Jharkhand stated that the proposal to enact any central legislation on the subject matter of water was neither warranted nor necessary as per the provisions of the constitution. However, he suggested that the policy recommendation contained in the draft National Water Policy (2012) might be forwarded to the State Governments as guidelines for preparation of action plans to achieve sustainable management of water. He suggested for starting a separate branch of engineering on the subject matter of water engineering. He pointed out that use of forest land for water conservation, like building a dam, and for industry or mining were very different but they were treated alike under Forest Conservation Act resulting in delay in getting forest clearance, which defeated the purpose of water conservation and increasing water storage. He suggested that water could be allocated to

States in proportion to their contribution and there was a need for expeditious resolution of inter-State water disputes. Stressing water use efficiency, he called for research, development and innovation for ensuring sustainable management of water resources. The full text of his speech is at **Annex –XI**.

Shri Newlai Tingkhatra, Minister for Water Resources Department, Arunachal Pradesh welcomed the National Water Policy (2012), which broadly covered the need of the States. However, he stated that goals of National Water Policy would be realized when the Central Government generously committed enough resources to its implementation and sustenance. He emphasized that there was a need to incorporate economic incentives in the Policy as such States were under tremendous economic pressure to do away with preservation of environment. He urged upon the Central Government to generously reward dividend for maintaining forest cover in the form of Green Bonus to Arunachal Pradesh. The full text of his speech is at **Annex –XII**.

Shri Shivpal Singh Yadav, Minister for Irrigation and Flood Control, Uttar Pradesh supported the meaningful and multidimensional policy recommendations of draft National Water Policy (2012) except the proposed National Water Framework Law, for which general guiding principles would be more appropriate. He suggested wider and extensive consultation with all stakeholders before deciding on amending Indian Easement Act, 1882. He thanked the Central Government for declaring Saryu Project as National Project and processing declaration of Sharda Sahayak Project as National Project. He called for integrated approach to maintain flow and sanctity of Ganga & Yamuna rivers. He suggested simplification of procedure for expeditious sanction of AIBP and FMP projects. The full text of the speech of **Shri Akhilesh Yadav, Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh** is at **Annex – XIII**.

Shri P. Sudarshan Reddy, Minister for Major and Medium irrigation, Andhra Pradesh represented Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. He congratulated Ministry of Water Resources for adopting an extensive consultation process, which had gone a long way in making the policy inclusive and in building ownership among the various stakeholders. He suggested that the proposed national framework law needed to be debated at an appropriate forum in great detail before including in the policy. He suggested that the inter-sectoral priorities as indicated in the 2002 policy should be retained. Welcoming the proposal for working out environmental flows, he expressed the need for further scientific probing for its practicability,

since in most river basins there might not be any water to be allocated for environmental flows after meeting the demands for various uses. He emphasized clearances of water projects in a time bound manner and offered support of his government for proposed centre for research in water policy at WALAMTARI, Hyderabad. The full text of his speech is at **Annex –XIV**.

Shri Rajiv Banerjee, Minister-in-charge, Department of Irrigation and Waterways, West Bengal stated that the Draft National Water Policy (2012) encompassing various pertinent issues had undoubtedly paved the way for creation of a system of law and institutions, and for a plan of action with a unified national perspective and that exercise was commendable, considering the wide spectrum of regional diversities and specific problems and needs of the State. While endorsing the policy in general, he highlighted the issue of non-point source pollution mostly arising from agro-chemicals. He pointed out that there was really no water surplus basin from ecological angle and asked for declaring river and sea erosion as national problems. Further, he stated that the present elaborate process of sanction and release of central funds adopted for scrutiny and appraisal often marred the progress and sometime frustrated the ultimate purpose of ensuring food security through execution of projects. He called for formulation of an action plan by the upper riparian States to mitigate the damages due to flood in the lower riparian States by increasing/restoring flood cushion in reservoirs and central assistance to the States for implementation of the action plan. He suggested that the National Water Policy (2012) should clarify about keeping the interests of the affected States, though the national interest in negotiation about sharing and management of water of international river was of paramount interest. He also suggested provision of trans-boundary aquifer management plan along international border for sustainable ground water management. The full text of his speech is at **Annex –XV**.

Shri P.J. Joseph, Minister for Water Resources, Kerala stated that the primary consideration should be about utilization of water for meeting the water needs of the people and for sustainable development for ensuring ecological balance. A broad overarching National Legal framework for legislation on water governance was likely to infringe upon the rights of the States to legislate on the vital subject of water. He emphasized that water was a basic entitlement to which all people, irrespective of their economic status, should have free access, and therefore, Kerala was against commercialization of water. He said that ecological needs of the rivers, institutional arrangement for promotion, regulation and evolving mechanism for efficient use of water, differential pricing of water, dam safety services, etc., should be left to the

States. He stated that Water Users Associations could not be vested with the power to fix rates to ensure that economically weaker sections were not left out of access to water. He also opposed the system of periodical inspection of water pollution by a third party which might lead to misuse of powers in the absence of clear definition of the third party. He hoped that all the riparian States should be able to work out a solution to disputes among themselves in spirit of true nationalism. The full text of his speech is at **Annex - XVI**.

Shri K.L. Agrawal, State Minister for Narmada Valley Development, Madhya Pradesh stated that a policy was a vision document for a sector and not a tool to usurp the constitutionally mandated rights of the States. He stated that water was a public good and its treatment as an economic good in the name of efficient use was fraught with danger. He commented that the environment and forest clearance procedures, which were major impediments, had not been addressed adequately in the Policy. Further, he stated that the ecological needs of a river regime forming a pre-emptive need would hinder the development of the sector, especially in the rainfed regions. Expressing that the National Water Policy (2012) laid emphasis on centralized monitoring, regulation and control, he suggested institutionalization of ways to strengthen State Water Resources Departments by complementary interventions, capacity buildings, etc. The speech of **Shri Shivraj Singh Chauhan, Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh** is at **Annex – XVII**.

Shri Hemaram Choudhary, Minister for Water Resources, Rajasthan asked for grant of special status to Rajasthan considering its geo-physical conditions and water scarcity situations. He called for declaration of all Inter-State Rivers and Canals as National Rivers and Canals to protect the interest of States in reference to inter-State water disputes. He suggested retention of inter-sectoral priorities in water allocation as per 2002 Policy and asked for a representation for Rajasthan in Bhakra Beas Management Board. He also requested Central Government to release the incentive grant specified by the 13th Finance Commission since the State Government had already placed a Bill in the State Assembly to set up Water Regulatory Authority. The full text of his speech is at **Annex - XVIII**.

Shri Vijay Kumar Chaudhary, Minister, Water Resources Department, Bihar stated that there could only be a national framework on general policies on water but these should not be of regulatory nature. He proposed that the National Water Policy should specifically frame institutional systems and apparatus with focus on State specific needs. He highlighted the water

stress condition in Bihar due to poor per capita availability of water, the problem of flood and water logged areas and called for integrated storage structures so that flood water was not drained wastefully. He stated that though the proposed draft rightly recognized that appropriate economic principle should be applied to determine the pricing of water, objectives of social justice, poverty and environment must also be factored in this perspective. Lack of strong regulations to limit polluting activities and incentives to treat effluents might become perverse incentive to pollute more, he added. He proposed that the demand of water from a particular river basin by a State should be determined proportionate to the contribution to its catchment area into the river. He proposed a Research Institution for Water Resources Development and Management in Bihar in view of water availability in Bihar and recurring floods. The full text of his speech is at **Annex - XIX**.

Shri K.V. Ramalingam, Minister for Public Works, Government of Tamil Nadu said that there was no need to evolve a National Legal Framework. However, he suggested that the Policy should ensure that the upper riparian States did not object to the utilization of water by the lower riparian States, especially in the drought prone and needy areas and that the lower riparian States should not be compelled to get the concurrence of the other co-basin States for the projects enunciated. He also asked for protection of existing agreements, awards of Tribunal, covenants, etc. Reacting to the policy recommendation for strengthening of water infrastructure in the water rich eastern and north-eastern regions of the country, he asked for strengthening water use infrastructure, wherever it was weak. He stated that the institutional arrangements for promotion, regulation and evolving mechanism for efficient use of water should only be at State level and the State Government itself could decide whether water should be priced as an economic good or not. He proposed that the State, owning dam should have the authority with regard to dam safety in respect of dams located in other States. He suggested that project planning of water resources projects having inter-state ramifications including hydro-power projects should be managed by Central Government utilities. He opposed the move to set up a permanent Water Disputes Tribunal since it would be impracticable and ineffective as the understanding of the disputes with areas in several river basins were very varied in purport and content. He also opposed water budget and water accounting for each aquifer. The full text of his speech is at **Annex - XX**.

Shri Yashpal Arya, Irrigation Minister, Uttarakhand highlighted the efforts made by the State of Uttarakhand for better management of water resources. He stated that Uttarakhand

was protecting forests in spite of its impact on implementation of development schemes, and therefore, States like Uttarakhand should be given Green Bonus. He emphasized construction of check dams and small dams for water conservation and stressed that at least 50% of water requirement of urban areas should be met through rain water harvesting. He informed that the State of Uttarakhand was in the process of setting up of a Water Regulation Authority and asked for relaxation in the norms of Central Assistance in view of typical geological setting of hilly States like Uttarakhand. The full text of his speech is at **Annex - XXI**.

Shri Raghunath Mohanty, Minister, Housing and Urban Development, Odisha expressed concern that inter-state water disputes were not being resolved within the framework of law and adequate regard was not being paid towards the riparian rights of the different stakeholders, particularly, with reference to the Polavaram Project. He informed that for sustainable uses of water resources, river basin plans of all river basins and river basin organization in one of the river basin had been set up in Odisha. He brought out the difficulties in meeting the time schedule stipulated in AIBP Guidelines since execution of major and medium irrigation projects were unduly delayed due to problems of resettlement and rehabilitation, land acquisition, forest and environmental clearances, etc. He also asked for Central assistance for pre project activities, such as, land acquisition and rehabilitation & re-settlement. He urged the Central Government to constitute a Task Force to examine the problems of flood, drainage congestion and coastal erosion of Odisha. The speech of **Shri Naveen Patnaik, Chief Minister of Odisha** is at **Annex – XXII**.

Shri A.L. Hek, Minister, Water Resources Department, Meghalaya highlighted the steps taken by his State for better management of water resources. He stated that the lack of effective water resources management in the past had resulted in soil erosion and land degradation in the hills and silting of river bodies. Better convergence, better governance and higher participation of the community in the developmental efforts had, therefore, been made central to the holistic development initiatives. He informed that efforts were being made to comprehensively map the water resources in different watersheds, catchment, sub basins and basins and promote structures as well as management framework to tap and use the same water resources along the cascades for different purposes, such as, drinking, water supply, aquaculture, tourism, irrigation, hydel-power and ground water recharge. He proposed that Brahmaputra Board may be substituted with a Regional Water Management Authority having decentralized effective presence in each State Capital of North East region. He proposed

appropriate water management technologies for the hilly areas along with the integrated flood management programme with thrust on catchment area treatment aimed at enhancing surface water retention, silt management and ground water recharge. The speech of **Dr. Mukul Sangma, Chief Minister of Meghalaya** is at **Annex – XXIII**.

The speeches of Shri Narendra Modi, Chief Minister of Gujarat (**Annex- XXIV**); Shri Virbhadra Singh, Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh (**Annex- XXV**); Shri O. Ibobi Singh, Chief Minister of Manipur (**Annex- XXVI**); Shri Ram Vichar Nettam, Minister for Irrigation and Command Area Development, Chhatisgarh (**Annex- XXVII**); and Shri Badal Choudhary, Minister for Water Resources, Tripura (**Annex- XXVIII**) were circulated during the meeting, which are placed at Annexes XXIV to XXVIII respectively.

Concluding the deliberations, Shri Harish Rawat, Minister (Water Resources) thanked the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Chief Ministers and the Ministers of various States for their valuable suggestions during the course of deliberations which would lead the way to the road map for addressing the challenges in the Water Resources Sector. He stated that during the course of deliberations, some key suggestions like recognition of river erosion as a National problem, drainage congestion, transboundary aquifer management, research on arsenic and fluoride removal technology and pollution caused from unscientific uses of pesticides and fertilizers, had emerged. Referring to the opening remarks of the Hon'ble Prime Minister, he reiterated that National Water Framework Law did not intend to encroach upon the powers of the State Governments. He assured that the Framework Law and the River Basin Management Bill would be drafted in such a manner that the rights and powers of the States were not curtailed in any manner. He assured that these laws would be finalized only after having threadbare deliberations and consensus. He emphasized that the Policy attached top most priority to drinking water. He also proposed that draft National Policy Guidelines for allocation of water amongst States would be brought before the next meeting of the Council incorporating suggestions made by the various States.

Minister (Water Resources) also stated that a broader consensus had emerged on the Policy and proposed adoption of the draft National Water Policy (2012) with a provision to suitably incorporate the views and comments of the States and the Central Ministries.

The Council, accordingly, adopted the National Water Policy (2012) as per the deliberation at the Council Meeting.

At the end, Secretary (Water Resources) proposed Vote of Thanks to the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Chief Ministers and the Ministers of various States.

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Ministry of Water Resources

**SUMMARY RECORDS OF PROCEEDING OF 6TH MEETING OF NATIONAL WATER
RESOURCES COUNCIL HELD ON 28TH DECEMBER, 2012 IN NEW DELHI**

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

A. MEMBERS OF NWRC INCLUDING THEIR REPRESENTATIVES

1. Dr. Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister - **Chairman**
2. Shri Harish Rawat, Minister of Water Resources - **Vice Chairman**
3. Shri S. Jaipal Reddy, Minister of Science & Technology
4. Shri Jairam Ramesh, Minister of Rural Development
5. Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar, Minister of Development of North Eastern Region
6. Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Governor of Punjab & Administrator, U.T. of Chandigarh
7. Shri Rajeev Shukla, Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs and Planning
8. Shri Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission
9. Shri Mihir Shah, Member (WR&RD), Planning Commission
10. Shri Tarun Gogoi, Chief Minister, Assam
11. Shri Manohar Parrikar, Chief Minister, Goa
12. Shri Bhupinder Singh Hooda, Chief Minister, Haryana
13. Shri Arjun Munda, Chief Minister, Jharkhand
14. Shri Jagadish Shettar, Chief Minister, Karnataka
15. Shri Prithviraj Chavan, Chief Minister, Maharashtra
16. Shri Pu. Lalthanhawla, Chief Minister, Mizoram
17. Shri Parkash Singh Badal, Chief Minister, Govt. of Punjab
18. Shri Vijay Kumar Choudhary, Minister of Water Resources, Government of Bihar
19. Shri Basavaraj Bommai, Minister, WRD, Govt. of Karnataka
20. Shri P.J. Joseph, Minister, WRD, Govt. of Kerala
21. Shri K.L. Agarwal, Minister, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh
22. Shri A.L. Hek, Minister in charge (WRD), Govt. of Meghalaya
23. Shri Raghunath Mohanty, Minister of Housing & UD, Law & IT, Govt. of Odisha
24. Shri Janmeja Singh Sekhon, Minister (Irrigation), Govt. of Punjab
25. Shri Hema Ram Chaudhary, Minister (WRD), Govt. of Rajasthan
26. Shri K.V. Ramalingam, Minister, Public Works, Govt. of Tamil Nadu
27. Shri Shiv Pal Singh Yadav, Minister, WRD, Uttar Pradesh
28. Shri Yashpal Arya, Minister (Irrigation), Govt. of Uttarakhand
29. Shri P.Sudarshan, Minister (Major & Medium Irrigation) Govt. of Andhra Pradesh
30. Shri Rajib Banerjee, Minister, Irrigation & Waterways Department, Govt. West Bengal
31. Shri Dhruv Vijai Singh, Secretary (Water Resources) - **Secretary**

B. OFFICERS FROM CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

1. Shri Pulok Chatterji, Principal Secretary to PM
2. Shri Raminder Singh Gujral, Secretary, Ministry of Finance
3. Shri V. Rajagopalan, Secretary, Mof Environment & Forests
4. Shri Pankaj Jain, Secretary, Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation

5. Shri Vishwapati Trivedi, Chairman, IWAI, M/o Shipping
6. Shri G. Mohan Kumar, Additional Secretary (WR)
7. Shri Devender Sharma, Member (RM), CWC
8. Shri Sushil Gupta, Chairman, CGWB
9. Smt. Anu Garg, Joint Secretary to PM
10. Shri S.K. Kohli, JS & FA (WR)
11. Shri N. S. Samant, Joint Secretary (A&PP), MoWR
12. Shri T.M.Vijay Bhaskar, Joint Secretary, M/o Drinking Water & Sanitation
13. Shri Saraswati Prasad, Joint Secretary, M/o Drinking Water & Sanitation
14. Shri Vijay Kumar, Economic Advisor, MoWR
15. Shri Pradeep Kumar, Commissioner (PR), MoWR
16. Shri N.K. Mathur, Commissioner (Ganga), MoWR
17. Shri G. Aranganathan, Commissioner (Indus), MoWR
18. Shri G.S. Jha, Commissioner (CAD&WM), MoWR
19. Shri Narender Kumar, Commissioner (B&B), MoWR
20. Ms. Sudha Midha, ADG (Stat), MoWR
21. Shri M. Satyanarayana, Advisor (C & M), National Water Mission
22. Shri M.S. Agrawal, Adviser (WR), Planning Commission
23. Shri C.B. Singh, Adviser, M/o Shipping
24. Shri Krishan Kumar, Director, PMO
25. Shri M.K. Sinha, Sr. Jt. Commissioner (PP), MoWR
26. Shri Md. Sahid, PS to Minister (WR)
27. Shri Arijit Dey, OSD to Minister (WR)
28. Shri Vivek Saxena, PS to Minister, MoEF
29. Shri Neeraj Verma, PS to Minister of Development of North Eastern Region
30. Shri Sudhir Tiwari, Deputy Director (PIB)

C. OFFICERS FROM STATE GOVERNMENTS / UTs

1. Shri J.Khosla, Additional Chief Secretary, Govt. of Assam
2. Shri R.S. Prasad, Chief Executive Officer, Govt. of Assam
3. Shri R.C. Sarma, Secretary (WR), Govt. of Assam
4. Smt. Archana Verma, Principal Secretary to CM, Govt of Assam
5. Shri H. Kakati, Chief Engineer (WR), Nodal officer, Govt. of Assam
6. Shri N.K. Aswal,,Principal Secretary, Govt of Chhattisgarh
7. Shri H.R. Kutare,,Engineer-in-chief, Govt of Chattisgarh
8. Shri Pawan Kumar Sain,,Secretary to CM, Govt. of Goa
9. Shri R.K. Verma, Principal Secretary (WR), Govt. of Goa
10. Shri S.T. Nadkarni,,Chief Engineer, WRD, Govt. of Goa
11. Smt. Valsala Vijayan, Deputy Resident Commissioner, Govt. of Goa
12. Shri Chhatar Singh, Addl. Chief Secretary-cum-Principal Secretary to CM, Haryana
13. Shri K.K.Jalan, Addl. Chief Secretary, Irrigation, Govt. of Haryana
14. Shri Harmail Singh, Engineer-in-Chief, Govt. of Haryana
15. Shri Rajiv Verma, S.E. YWS Circle, Delhi
16. Shri P.K. Mahapatra, Principal Resident Commissioner, Govt of Haryana
17. Shri Ajitkumar Jain, Principal Secretary to CM, Govt. of Maharashtra
18. Shri V.Giriraj, Principal Secretary, WRD, Govt. of Maharashtra
19. Shri R.W. Nikum, Chief Engineer (I) & JS, Govt. of Maharashtra
20. Shri R.M. Mishra, Principal Secretary, (WRD), Govt of Meghalaya
21. Shri Pankaj Jain, Resident Commissioner, Govt. of Meghalaya

22. Shri W.S. Basaiawmoit, Additional Chief Engineer, Water Resources, Meghalaya
23. Shri V.N. Narayanan, Assistant Resident Commissioner, Govt. of Nagaland
24. Shri O.P Saini, Principal Secretary, Govt. of Rajasthan
25. Shri P.L. Solanki, Chief Engineer, WR, Govt. of Rajasthan
26. Shri Dil Mohan Raj Mathur, Chief Engineer, SWRPD, Govt. of Rajasthan
27. Shri Narendra Mertia, Chief Engineer, QC & Vig., Govt. of Rajasthan
28. Sh. Bharat Sen Bhatia, O.S.D., Water Resources, Govt. of Rajasthan
29. Dr. M. Sai Kumar, Secretary, PWD, Govt. of Tamil Nadu
30. Shri Ram Dahin Singh, Executive Engineer, PWD & Liaison officer, Tamil Nadu
31. Shri R.K. Sharma, Engineer - in -chief, Government of Himanchal Pradesh
32. Shri. A.K. Vaidya, Superintending Engineer, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh
33. Shri Anand Prakash, Chief Secretary, Andaman & Nicobar Admn.
34. Smt. P.S. Srivastava, Commissioner-cum-Secretary, A & N Administration
35. Shri Jose P. John, Director, ANSWSM, Andaman & Nicobar Administration
36. Shri S.K. Negi, Principal Secretary, Govt. of Bihar
37. Shri Bipin Kumar, Additional Resident Commissioner, Govt. of Bihar
38. Shri Rajendra Prasad Mahto, Chief Engineer, Govt. of Bihar
39. Shri Indu Bhushan Kumar, Superintending Engineer, State WRD, Bihar
40. Shri Tinghap Taiju, Parlimentary Secretary, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh
41. Shri H.K. Paliwal, Principal Secretary, Coordination, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh
42. Shri Avinash Mishra, Chief Resident Commissioner, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh
43. Shri Gaken Ete, Secretary, WRD, Government of Arunachal Pradesh
44. Shri L. Angu, Chief Engineer, WRD, Government of Arunachal Pradesh
45. Shri Gyanesh Bharti, Development Commissioner, Daman & Diu and D & N Haveli
46. Shri Sudhir Chawda, Chief Engineer, Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli
47. Shri K.K. Sharma, Adviser/ Chief Secretary, Govt. of Chandigarh
48. Shri Vivek Anand, ADC to Governor Punjab
49. Shri N.K. Dureja, Resident Officer, Head, Govt. of Chandigarh
50. Shri V.P. Singh, Commissioner Municipal Corporation, Govt. of Chandigarh
51. Shri S.S. Bida, Chief Engineer, Municipal Corporation, Govt. of Chandigarh
52. Shri Tarlochan Singh, Superintending Engineer, PPHC, Govt. of Chandigarh
53. Shri Subardhan, Secretary, Irrigation, Govt. of Uttarakhand
54. Shri V.K. Tamta, Chief Engineer, Govt. of Uttarakhand
55. Shri D.K. Pachouri, Executive Engineer, Govt. of Uttarakhand
56. Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Commissioner (IFC), Govt. of Manipur
57. Shri Th. Indramani Singh, Chief Engineer, IFCD, Govt. of Manipur
58. Shri B.N. Navlavala, Adviser(WR) to Hon. CM Govt. of Gujarat
59. Shri S.J. Desai, Secretary (WRD), Govt. of Gujarat
60. Shri A.N. Mistry, C.E. (CG) & Addl. Secy. Govt. of Gujarat
61. Shri M.D. Patel, OSD (I.P.), N.,WR., WS. & K.Deptt., Govt. of Gujarat
62. Shri Rakesh Garg, Principal Secretary to Minister, Govt.of Uttar Pradesh
63. Shri Deepak Singhal, Principal Secretary, Irrigation, Govt.of Uttar Pradesh
64. Shri Ashok Kumar Ojha, Chief Engineer, Irrigation, Govt.of Uttar Pradesh
65. Shri A.K. Gupta, Chief Engineer(Ganga), Irrigation Govt.of Uttar Pradesh
66. Shri Pradeep Singh Karola, Principal Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister, Karnataka
67. Shri D. Satya Murty, Principal Secretary, WRD, Govt. of Karnataka
68. Shri Gurupadaswamy B.G., Secretary, WRD, Govt. of Karnataka
69. Shri M. Bangaraswamy, Chief Engineer (ISW), WRDO, Govt. of Karnataka
70. Shri S.K. Chettri, PCE-Cum-Secretary, Irrigation & FCD, Govt. of Sikkim
71. Shri P.K.Tripathi, Chief Secretary, Delhi
72. Shri M.M. Kutty, Principal Secretary to CM, Delhi

73. Shri Ved Prakash, Development Commissioner, Delhi
74. Smt. Debashree Mukherjee, CEO, Delhi Jal Board, Delhi
75. Shri B.M. Dhaul, Member (WS), Delhi Jal Board, Delhi
76. Shri V.K. Babbar, CE (Proj.) Water, Delhi Jal Board, Delhi
77. Shri Ish Kumar, CE (Irrigation & Flood Control), Delhi
78. Smt. Tinku Biswal, Special Secretary, WRD, Govt. of Kerala
79. Shri Mahanudevan, Chief Engineer, IDRIB, Govt. of Kerala
80. Shri Reji C. George, Addl. Private Secretary, Minister(WRD), Govt. of Kerala
81. Shri R.S. Julaniya, Principal Secretary, WRD, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh
82. Shri Manish Singh, Additional Secretary, WRD, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh
83. Shri M.G. Choubey, Engineer-in-Chief, WRD, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh
84. Ms. Devyani Billore, Resident Engineer, WRD, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh
85. Shri Suresh Chandra Mahapatra, Principal Secretary, WRD, Govt. of Odisha
86. Smt. Debajani Chakrabarti, Additional Secretary, WRD, Govt. of Odisha
87. Shri M.R. Shukla, Executive Engineer, VWD Cell, New Delhi, Govt. of Odisha
88. Shri Sohan Singh Thandal, Chief Parliamentary Secretary Irrigation, Govt. of Punjab
89. Shri S.K. Sandhu, Principal Secretary to CM, Govt. of Punjab
90. Shri K.J.S. Cheema, Special Principal Secretary to CM, Govt. of Punjab
91. Shri Karan Bir Singh Sidhu, Principal Secretary, Irrigation, Govt. of Punjab
92. Shri Ajoyendra Pyal, Spl. Chief Secy. (I)Govt of Andhra Pradesh
93. Shri S.K. Joshi , Principal Secretary, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh
94. Shri Aditya Nath Das, Principal Secretary, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh
95. Shri L. Narayana Reddy, Engineer-in-Chief (AW), Govt. of Andhra Pradesh
96. Shri K. Tirupataiah, D.G. Walamtari, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh
97. Shri Neel Kanth, Liaison Officer, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh
98. Shri P.P. Changkakati, Deputy Secretary (I), WRD, Govt of Assam
99. Shri M. Ngomdir, Chief Engineer (Water Resources), Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh
100. Shri Sudripta Roy, Chief Secretary, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh
101. Shri Onkar Chand Sharma, Secretary (IPH & Transport), Govt. of Himachal Pradesh
102. Shri R.T. Khunjuju, Parliamentary Secretary, Hydro Power, Arunachal Pradesh
103. Shri R.K. Garg, Technical Advisor, Delhi Jal Board, Govt of Delhi
104. Shri S.K. Satapathy, Principal Secretary, WRD, Govt. of Jharkhand
105. Shri Vimal Kirti Singh, Resident Commissioner, Govt. of Jharkhand
106. Shri B.C. Nigam, Special Secretary, WRD, Govt. of Jharkhand
107. Shri Ashok Kumar, Chief Engineer, WRD, Govt. of Jharkhand
108. Shri Amresh Kumar Sinha, Resident Engineer-cum-OSD, Govt. of Jharkhand
109. Shri R.K. Garg, Chief Engineer/Water Resources, Govt. of Punjab
110. Shri Harvinder Singh, Chief Engineer, Govt. of Punjab
111. Shri S.K. Goel, Consultant, Irrigation Department, Govt. of Punjab
112. Shri Bharat Lal , Resident Commissioner, Govt. of Gujarat
113. Shri Bhaiyalal Rajwade, Parliamentary Secretary, Govt. of Chhattisgarh
114. Shri K.V. Rajan, Engineer in Chief, WRD, Govt.of Tamil Nadu
115. Shri P. Muthaiah, Assistant Director, Information Centre, Govt. of Tamil Nadu
116. Shri S. Rajasekaran, Assistant Liaison Officer, Govt. of Tamil Nadu
117. Shri Bipin Mallick, Principal Secretary & Resident Commissioner, Maharashtra
118. Shri D.K. Tiwari, Municipal Commissioner, Govt. of Chandigarh
119. Shri T.K. Ghosh, Secretary, Govt. of West Bengal
120. Shri A. Ghosh, Deputy Secretary & Nodal Officer, Govt. of West Bengal
121. Shri Dharmendra, Resident Commissioner, Govt of Mizoram
122. Shri Baldhar Panda, Engineer-in-Chief, WRD, Govt of Odisha
123. Shri Bipul Gogai, Special Protocol Officer to CM, Govt. of Assam

124. Shri P.C. Dhiman, Pr. Resident Commissioner, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh
125. Shri V.C. Pharka, PS to CM, Govt of Himachal Pradesh
126. Shri T.G. Negi, OSD to CM, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh
127. Shri R.P. Khare, Chief Engineer (IWAI), Ministry of Shipping
128. Shri S.D. Vaidya, Special Secretary to CM, Delhi
129. Shri Ashok Tak, PS to Governor, Govt of Punjab
130. Shri K.J.S. Cheema, Special Principal Secretary to CM, Govt. of Punjab
131. Shri H.S. Kataria, Liaison Officer, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh
132. Shri R.K. Vaish, Pr. Resident Commissioner, Govt. of Tripura

Welcome Address by Shri Harish Rawat, Union Minister of Water Resources

Hon'ble Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singhji, Chief Ministers and Ministers of States, Administrators of Union Territories, Union Ministers, Senior Officers from Central and State Governments, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my privilege to welcome you all to the 6th Meeting of the National Water Resources Council. Your presence here at the Council meeting would help in giving appropriate shape to the draft National Water Policy (2012).

As you may be aware, National Water Resources Council was set up in 1983, essentially to foster the spirit of cooperation amongst States and Union Territories for preparing National Water Plans. Deliberations of the National Water Resources Council meetings had culminated in the evolution of the National Water Policy 1987 and 2002.

The Draft National Water Policy 2012 has been evolved after widespread consultations with all stakeholders, including consultations with the Hon'ble Members of Parliament in the Parliamentary Standing Committee and the Parliamentary Consultative Committee. The consultation process highlighted the need to review the National Water Policy. Accordingly, the Ministry had constituted a High-level Drafting Committee. The Committee had recommended the draft National Water Policy (2012) which was made available on the public domain and also circulated amongst the State Governments, Union Territories and related Union Ministries for comments. The suggestions/comments received were suitably incorporated in the draft National Water Policy (2012). This was also placed before the National Water Board at its 14th meeting held on 7th June, 2012.

During the last decade, a number of challenges have emerged in the water sector. India is now a water stressed country and heading towards water scarcity. So far we have not been able to address the water governance issue adequately. Considering the fact that the country has wide temporal and spatial variations in availability of water, the challenge of climate change would further impact on the quality of ground as well as surface water, besides the threat of inundation of coastal regions. Access to safe water for drinking and other domestic needs continues to be a problem in many parts of the country. Although Ground water contributes substantially to the drinking and irrigation needs of the country, it still remains inadequately regulated. Poor maintenance of irrigation infrastructure and the widening gap between the irrigation potential created and the irrigation potential utilized are matters of serious concern. Growing pollution of rivers and other water resources, blocking of ground water recharge zones and the deterioration of water quality call for concerted action.

The above concerns call for a common integrated perspective governed by certain basic principles, so that the concerns get addressed uniformly in the different parts of the country, ensuring equity and social justice. Good governance should have no geographical barriers. Water needs to be managed as common pool community

resource in the larger interest of food security and sustainable development. After meeting the pre-emptive needs of drinking & sanitation and that for livelihood and agriculture water needs to be allocated in a manner which maximizes its value. Considering the constraints - both physical and financial in enhancing the availability of water, efficient use of water is of paramount importance. It is in this context that a National Water Framework Law which will facilitate the adoption of sound principles of management is felt to be necessary. Such a law is envisaged not to encroach on the legislative space of the States, but to lay down the basic principles of water governance based on consensus.

The new Policy also emphasizes the basin management concept to promote integrated water resources management. I do not think it is difficult for the States to come to a consensus on the legal framework needed for basin management which could provide solutions to many of the current problems of water management.

The draft National Water Policy 2012 also looks at the adaptation policies needed to cope with the impact of climate change. The policy emphasizes the need for differential pricing of water based on economic principles while securing the basic needs of the people. It advocates the need for holistic and inter-disciplinary approach water related problems. Most importantly, the Policy calls for managing water as a community resource to enable the country in achieving the objective of food security, livelihood support to the needy people and sustainable development for all.

The draft National Water Policy (2012) also highlights the need for conservation of water resources through watershed development, creation of additional water storage, artificial recharge, rainwater harvesting and inter basin transfer of surplus water. The draft policy lays emphasis on efficient use of water by better demand management and adoption of modern techniques like micro irrigation, recycling and evaluation of water foot prints.

Integrated water resources management is essential for ensuring sustainable development of water resources in the country. For achieving this objective, the Policy recommends that the environmental, social and economic aspects should be integral part of project formulation and planning.

Involvement of Water Users' Associations in the planning and management of water resources has also been recommended in the Policy. We also need to empower them to collect irrigation cess. It recommends that part of the cess collected by the Water Users' Associations be ploughed back for maintenance of water infrastructure, thereby improving service delivery.

As mentioned by me a little earlier, extraction of ground water is virtually without any effective regulations. This has resulted in over exploitation and depletion of ground water in some parts of the country. For achieving optimum utilization of ground water for meeting ever increasing demand of water, aquifer mapping and effective regulation of groundwater has been recommended.

I am confident that the deliberations in today's Council meeting will enable us to adopt the proposed National Water Policy that meets the emerging challenges in the water sector. I look forward for your valuable suggestions and guidance.

Thank you,

Opening Statement by Dr. Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister

I am very happy to be with you for this meeting of the National Water Resources Council. This forum, which was created by the National Development Council at its thirty-sixth meeting on 14th March, 1982, was part of the vision of late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi. It was devised not only to discuss the National Water Policy issues, but also to deliberate on administrative arrangements and regulations for fair distribution and utilization of water among different beneficiaries, keeping in view the optimum development of this scarce national resource. Our task today is to fulfill that vision so that we can assure our future generations of a water-secure future.

Friends, the highlights of the extensive consultations preceding the formulation of the draft National Water Policy 2012 have been presented before you. It would not have escaped your attention that the draft is an effort to focus attention on the looming crisis in the water sector and to lay a roadmap for the future, based on the fundamental principles of equity, sustainability and good governance. Our deliberations today need to be guided not only by these sound principles, but also an appreciation of the fact that we are approaching a critical juncture for the future of water management in our country.

Most objective data available today point unerringly to the conclusion that water, or the lack of it, could well become the limiting factor to our social and economic growth in the future. With around 18% of the world's population but only 4% of its usable fresh water, India already faces a scarcity of water, which is a vital and stressed natural resource. Climate change could further aggravate the distortions in water availability in our country. Receding glaciers would negatively impact flows in our major rivers and pose a major new threat to the welfare of millions of our people.

Rapid economic growth and urbanization today are widening the demand supply gap and leading to worsening our water-stress index. Our water bodies are getting increasingly polluted by untreated industrial effluents and sewage. Groundwater levels are falling in many parts due to excessive withdrawals, leading to contamination with fluoride, arsenic and other chemicals. The practice of open defecation, which regrettably is all too widespread, contributes further to contaminating potable water sources.

This situation calls for judicious management of our limited water resources and a paradigm shift in our approach to this vital issue. Planning for water use and distribution has to be done on the foundation of a national vision. Regions with sufficient water resources are already experiencing the strains that result from having water-deficient regions around them. We therefore need to rise above political, ideological and regional differences and also move away from a narrow project-centric approach to a broader holistic approach to issues of water management.

Integrated water resources planning at the basin level, conservation of water, preservation of river corridors, recharging of our aquifers and their sustainable management and improvement of water use efficiency are among the broad areas that need our urgent attention. Our irrigation systems need to shift from a narrow engineering-construction-centric approach to a more multi-disciplinary and participatory approach. Incentives need to be provided to narrow the gap between irrigation capacities created and those being utilized. We also need to move towards transparent and participatory mechanisms of pricing of water by the primary stakeholders themselves. The local communities have to be involved actively in the management of water resources.

As you all are aware, groundwater has a prominent role in meeting the requirements of water for drinking and other purposes. In spite of its vital importance, there is no regulation for its extraction and coordination among competing uses. We need to, therefore, initiate steps to minimize misuse of groundwater by regulating the use of electricity for its extraction. We also need to move to a situation where groundwater can be treated as a common property resource in a way that protects the basic needs of drinking water as also the livelihoods of our poor farmers.

The 12th Plan, which was adopted by the National Development Council yesterday, has dwelt on these and other issues confronting the water sector and called for path-breaking reform. In fact, water was one of the critical areas on which I touched upon in my address yesterday to the National Development Council.

Outlays for the water sector have been increased substantially. But these outlays will deliver only if they are matched and supported by better management and good governance. An urgent national consensus on the common denominators of water governance is therefore essential and the first critical step towards achieving water security and sustainability for all.

One of the problems in achieving better management is that the current institutional and legal structures dealing with water in our country are inadequate, fragmented and need active reform. It is in this context that a suggestion has been made for a national legal framework of general principles on water, which, in turn, would pave the way for essential legislation on water governance in every State.

Friends, I would like to emphasize the need to see the proposed national legal framework in proper perspective. The framework would be an umbrella statement of general principles governing the exercise of legislative, executive or devolved powers by the Centre, the states and the local governing bodies. The central government, I repeat, does not wish to encroach, in any manner, upon the constitutionally guaranteed rights of States or to centralize water management.

As we move into the Twelfth Plan period, the Indian economy and society will face daunting challenges in the water sector, both in terms of quantity as well as quality. There is a need, therefore, to take urgent and pragmatic decisions because water

security is an issue on which we have to swim together or sink together. These decisions need your collective support. I hope this meeting will deliberate on these issues in a comprehensive manner and come out with reasoned suggestions in the overall national interest of our country.

I look forward to your deliberations with great interest.

Full Text of Speech of Shri Tarun Gogoi, Chief Minister, Assam

Hon'ble Prime Minister, Chief Ministers of different States and Heads of Union Territories, Officials of the Government of India and States, dignitaries, ladies and gentlemen.

2. At the very outset I would like to offer my sincere gratitude and thanks to Hon'ble Prime Minister for giving us this opportunity to share our views and deliberate upon the Draft National Water Policy, 2012. Considering the growing importance of water in the socio-economic life of our country, detailed and extensive consultations and deliberations on the subject are well merited. This meeting of the National Water Resources Council is an important measure in this regard.

3. Among all the resources of the Nation, water is a common natural resource of critical importance. The growing population and the economic development of our country have led to increasing demand for water. Given the diversity of geographical and climatic conditions in India, national water resources have to be developed, conserved, used and managed in an integrated and environmentally sound manner, keeping in view regional and local requirements and imperatives. While the Constitution of India entrusts use and management of water substantially to the states, it is important to arrive at a common understanding on the principles governing water use through the National Water Resources Policy.

4. In addition to being required for survival in the form of drinking water, water is also essential to sustain life through agriculture. Water is also a critical resource for ensuring sanitation in our growing cities. Use of water for drinking purposes requires that we address issues of water quality in a comprehensive manner. For this we need to ensure that chemicals used in agriculture and effluents from our cities and industries do not contaminate water beyond safe levels. Draft National Water Policy, 2012 also suggests demand management and water pricing. Pricing of water should ensure its efficient use and reward conservation. While these measures are necessary for recognizing the value of water, particularly clean water, and preventing waste, it is also important to realize that water is a universal, life supporting, common good. Equitable access to water for all and its fair pricing, for drinking and other uses such as sanitation, agricultural and industrial, should be arrived at through regulatory systems based on wider ranging public consultation and institutions involving people's participation.

5. The National Water Policy has to recognize the geographic and climatic diversity of our country and allow for concerted action by the Central and the State Governments. Flood and erosion are the most crucial problems faced by Assam and need to be addressed with topmost urgency. Severe floods are experienced annually in Assam causing immense damage to the economic and social life of the people. In addition to destroying the habitat and forcing displacement of people, such floods severely damage the rural economy and the essential economic infrastructure of the state in form of

roads, bridges etc. In fact, sometimes floods hit the state repeatedly, as in 2012, when the state was hit by three waves of floods. 161 people lost their lives due to floods in 2012. These floods also destroyed Kharif crops over 3.2 lakh hectares, with a huge loss of livestock. Over 29 lakh people in 4540 villages were affected by floods with lakhs being rendered homeless and forced to shift to relief camps. These floods also caused severe damage to our wildlife sanctuaries and National Parks and other infrastructure comprising roads and bridges etc. The estimated economic damage to the economy of the State is in thousands of crores.

6. It is important to realize that flood control requires protective measures in the flood plains along with catchment area management in the hills. The Government of Assam has been implementing protective works since 1954 and has constructed nearly 4500 kms of embankments. This has protected lakhs of hectares and made it fit for agriculture. Yet periodically, severe floods breach such protective works with huge economic loss. At the same time, the growing road and rail network and urban construction has resulted in natural drainage being blocked in many places, resulting in inundation and floods during rainy season. There is, therefore, a need for scientifically designed drainage all over the state to keep pace with the infrastructure construction. This needs to be complemented by extensive soil conservation, afforestation and watershed management in the hilly areas of the North Eastern Region. We also need to study and understand the climatic changes that cause erratic flooding patterns and reasons for the same, so that proper ameliorative measures may be adopted. This has to be combined with regional flood early warning systems and adoption of flood moderation measures along with well planned erosion management. Therefore, we urge that the Draft policy should emphasize these aspects, encourage interstate and regional cooperation and strengthen the institutions for the purpose.

7. Erosion is a serious problem affecting Assam as a result of which land is being lost for productive use. In fact nearly 8000 hectares of land are lost to erosion every year and since 1954, estimated 4.2 Lakh hectares of land have been lost in this manner. This phenomenon assumes critical importance in Assam in view of the rising population and scarce land resources which has resulted in rising population density in the state. In addition to destruction of habitat and economic loss, erosion results in involuntary migrations, conflicts over land and social tensions. Erosion control requires a range of short, medium and long term measures. As a short term measure we recommend that erosion be included as a natural disaster qualifying for assistance under the National Disaster Relief Fund. In the medium term, there is special requirement for erosion protection works including river training, land reclamation, channel guidance and river bank stabilization schemes. Long-term solutions in this regard would rest on measures based on detailed and scientific studies into the nature of river flows and its impact on erosion. Such studies will help in devising better schemes for erosion control. The Government of Assam has identified erosion management as a priority area and we look forward strong Central Government support in our erosion control efforts.

8. As we are all aware, water is an important resource for generation of electricity through hydro-power schemes. Our country needs electricity to meet growing energy needs. Therefore, it is natural that schemes be formulated for generation of electricity from water. However, some of these schemes may have deep and extensive downstream impact which also needs to be scientifically studied by experts and properly mitigated. Needless to say, in the democratic setup of the country, measures for such impact mitigation should also involve public consultations. Such an approach would make these schemes acceptable to the people and hence more sustainable.

9. Further, while deciding on any project or a scheme involving the use of multi-state river waters, all the Riparian states should be mandatorily consulted while assessing the impact on the environment, rehabilitation measures, agriculture, aquatic life, flora and fauna and while formulating environmental impact assessment and ameliorative measures. Similarly the interests of all riparian states, upper as well as lower, should be equally recognized while deciding on the benefit from such schemes. In the case of hydro-electric dams, this should also be suitably reflected in allocation of free and priced electricity to the states affected. Special financial assistance packages should be provided by the Central Government to the affected States for agreed measures to mitigate the impact of such hydro-electric schemes.

10. Flood management issue being of paramount importance for safety of life and property of the people, should be given mandatory consideration and weightage in all hydro-electric and other water based projects and schemes. In fact, the National Water Policy 2002 (para 17.2) clearly establishes primacy of flood mitigation measures in such projects. We strongly urge that this focus be maintained in the proposed water policy also. In addition to the interdisciplinary approach suggested in the policy, we also recommend inclusion of a mandatory study of the likely downstream impact in the down-stream riparian states resulting from the future water resource/ hydro-electric projects as a part of project preparation and approvals. We support the view that all hydropower schemes in the North East should be of the nature of multipurpose projects that include downstream and upstream flood moderation measures.

11. Friends, water is our common, natural resource to be used for the benefit of all. The use of river waters, should, therefore be on the basis of equitable utilization and commonality of interests that recognizes water as a common property. The use of our river waters should be based on the concept of territorial integrity which reinforces the commonality of purpose and states that lower riparian states also have a right to the natural flow of a river, and upper riparian can use it but must allow the waters to flow unchanged in quantity and quality. In any water related dispute, the concept of equitable apportionment, which argues in favour of proper consideration of the needs of all claimants, should be the guiding principle for arbitration. Recognition of this as an overarching policy principle would enable better cooperation and coordination in harnessing our water resources.

12. We feel that it is also time to review the functioning of our institutions for water governance, in particular the Inter State River Boards. Such bodies, functioning largely

as technical bodies, have not been effective in guiding proper and sustainable conservation, use and management of water resources or in resolving river water disputes. Hence the Government of Assam had earlier supported a Regional Body for the North East, namely North Eastern Water Resources Authority (NEWRA), involving high level participation of North Eastern states, to build consensus on water related issues at political, technical and administrative levels. We understand that the central Government is now contemplating setting up statutory river basin authorities to replace such Boards. The Brahmaputra River Valley Authority (BRVA) is also proposed. This would be a welcome step. Equally, we commend the Draft policy for recognizing the need for study, research and capacity building in water related issues. We have also taken up some initiatives at the State level and are confident of Central Government support for the same.

13. I may also mention that Brahmaputra is an international river with its basin including China, India, Bhutan and Bangladesh. As a result, in order to maintain the flow of water in this river, so that it can sustain the environment and water balance in the North East, there would be need to arrive at understanding with all the riparian countries. We need to encourage international cooperation to avoid any measures that are detrimental to the sustainability of the Brahmaputra. We must also foster sharing of information amongst the basin countries in mutual interest.

14. Hon'ble Prime Minister and Friends, I commend the Ministry of Water Resources for attempting to review and develop the National Water Policy to address the challenges of the emerging imperatives before the nation to ensure sustainable development. I thank the Hon'ble Prime Minister for enabling such open consultation and sharing of views. I am confident that New Water Resources Policy would suitably address our concerns and ensure harmony, understanding and cooperation in the use of water, our common national resource.

Full Text of Speech of Shri S. Prakash Singh Badal, Chief Minister of Punjab

Respected Prime Minister, Hon'ble Members of the Union Cabinet, esteemed Chief Ministers and all other participants; I compliment the Ministry of Water Resources for organizing this 6th meeting of the National Water Resources Council. This forum provides us an excellent opportunity for exchange of views and interaction amongst States.

Punjab has a well-organized, irrigation network and we are extremely conscious of the limited water resources. Ours is a predominately Agricultural State and its agriculture is highly intensive and dependent on heavy requirement of water. Therefore, water is the life line of the Punjab farmers and the economy of the State and well-being of the farmers depends to large extent on it. Hard work of farmers and its well organized and reliable Irrigation System has enabled the State to play a vital role in increasing agricultural production, thereby attaining self-sufficiency in food grains and making major contribution (over 50%) to the National Food Pool, which needs to be given due weightage.

The water resources of the State compared to its requirement are grossly inadequate. The allocated surface water resources are being fully utilized, but these do not fully meet the demand of agricultural sector which is causing a great strain on ground water resources which are being over-exploited by various users resulting in depletion of underground water resources of the State.

Since we last met, a new Draft National Water Policy (2012) has been formulated suggesting amendments in the National Water Policy adopted in 2002. Any revision in the National Water Policy should be based on the existing constitutional provisions and well recognized/ universally accepted principles. We reiterate that in framing the National Water Policy, the following principles should be kept in view:-

- i. 'Water' is a State subject under Constitution and States have exclusive power of legislation on the subject. The distribution of powers under the federal structure of our Constitution should in no case be tinkered with by change in frame work of existing laws. Each State has its own consideration in planning, management and use of its water resources which vary from region to region and State to State. National interest rather requires that the States should be left to manage their water.
- ii. The distribution of water resources should be and must be based on universally accepted Riparian principles. The exclusive rights of riparian/basin states must be recognized. The existing usage and future needs of water of a riparian state must be protected as otherwise it will directly affect the growth of the State which will not be in the national interest.

iii. Inter- basin transfer of water based on equity and social justice will be in conflict with exclusive rights of people living in basin areas. Punjab State is of the view that inter-basin transfer of water should not be resorted to.

iv. Establishment of a water tariff system, fixation of the criteria for water charges, statutory empowerment of water users Associations, pricing of electricity, establishment of a water Regulatory Authority are matters which should be left to the States.

v. The proposal to carry out negotiations about sharing & management of water of international rivers in consultative association with riparian states is a welcome step. The same principle should be applicable for water distribution amongst the states.

vi. Punjab is opposed to the concept of integrated planning and management of river basins. Setting up of basin authorities by legislation with power to plan, manage and regulate utilization of water resources in the basin should be the exclusive right of the concerned state.

vii. Interest of farming community has to be kept in view for any proposed change in the framework of existing laws for controlling over-exploitation of ground water resources. Any action for improving the ground water situation by adopting rain water harvesting, diversification of crops etc should be preferred over any coercive measures for regulating ground water.

viii. Water resources being scarce, effort should be made to ensure that economic benefits are optimized locally only, rather than transporting water over long distances.

ix. Without prejudice to our consistent stand on riparian rights, Principles of equitable distribution of water should be well defined. Contribution made by each basin state to the catchment area of a river should be the main criteria for apportionment of water. As per Irrigation commission Report 1972 the drainage area of Punjab in the Indus basin is more than fifty thousand sq km which is three times that of Rajasthan (about fifteen thousand sq km) & five times that of Haryana (ten thousand sq km). Yet Punjab was allocated only about 25% share in Ravi-Beas waters whereas Rajasthan & Haryana were allocated about 50% & 22% respectively.

In this Draft National water policy of 2012, we have strong objections concerning (i) legislation for water development taking basin as a unit, (ii) water pricing and (iii) institutional arrangements.

(i) The legislation for water development lays stress for development of water resources taking basin or sub-basin as a unit. It is abundantly clear that water is a State subject and the States alone are empowered to deal with the subject. The relevant entry reads, "Water, that is to say water supplies, irrigation and canal,

drainage and embankment water storage and water power". Any integrated water resources management for the basin as a whole or sub-basin will be direct infringement on the freedom of the States to plan, formulate and execute water supply schemes as per their needs. It is our earnest desire that such policy should be formulated which should strengthen the principles of Riparian rights which is accepted universally and allow the States to develop and harness their water resources for the benefit of the society. It is feared that any so called integrated water management for the basin as a whole will lead to more conflicts amongst the States with no useful purpose.

(ii) Regarding 'water pricing', Punjab is of the view that allocation and pricing of water cannot be based purely on economic principles. Also the establishment different of water regulatory authority and fixation of water tariff system should be left to the states. In para 7.3 it has been laid down that the water charges should be determined on volumetric basis to meet equity, efficiency and economic principles which we strongly disagree with. Lastly as regards water users' associations, we think that these associations have a useful role in minor irrigation only but their statutory empowerment to collect, fix and retain any water charges should be decided by the states.

(iii) Regarding institutional arrangements as provided in para 12, Punjab is of the view that there is no need for a separate forum to deliberate upon issues relating to water, as Northern Zonal Council already exists for this purpose, nor establishment of a permanent water dispute tribunal.

Our State has hardly any natural resources. We do not have deposits of coal, iron and other natural minerals to develop the State. Water is the only natural source which is available with us. Any proposal to deprive the planning and usage of water in violation of Riparian rights will directly affect the development of State. The riparian rights are well recognized in the Constitution as well as endorsed by the Apex Court in the country.

Regarding financial and physical sustainability, the proposed draft lays down that subject to ensuring food security and supporting livelihood for the poor, water should increasingly be subjected to allocation and pricing on economic principles. The farmers of Punjab have over the years contributed greatly to make India self-reliant in food production. The price of agriculture produce of farmers is being fixed in a manner which has made the farmers' produce unremunerated. The pricing of all the inputs is not under the control of farmers whereas sale prices of agricultural produce have always been unremunerative. Accordingly with a view to compensate farmers the State provides them with subsidized irrigation. The pricing of water for agricultural activity cannot be based purely on economic principles. The issue of levying any charges for the use of water should be left to the States. It is a known fact that farming, all over the world, is being subsidized to enable the farmers to achieve sustainability and survival. This is also essential for ensuring national food security.

Additionally we feel that in the case of generation of electricity by any riparian state using its physical features through non-consumptive use of water, its utilization shall be the sole right of that state only.

In the end, I would like to emphasize that water is a very critical subject, having strong economic, emotional and political implications. Many of the tragic conflicts in the country are the result of a mishandling of this sensitive issue. A major part of the Punjab tragedy for which the entire country had to pay a huge and painful price for Centre's refusal to address the river waters issue along the just and internationally and nationally accepted Riparian Principle. This is one of the many areas where our decision makers in New Delhi must show greater sensitivity, statesmanship and farsightedness in handling critical issues such as Water. On many other religious, political and economic issues also, there is need to exercise restraint and statesmanship. I appeal to all of you, especially to the Government of India, to ensure that the blunders of the past are not repeated. Our refusal to learn from history, especially on a subject as sensitive and emotive as the Waters issue, can lead to a repetition of the tragic events of the past. This must be avoided at all costs.

I appeal again that the waters issues, being a State subject, be left to the states to manage.

I thank you, Sir, for providing me the opportunity to express our State's views on some of the vital issues relating to water resources in this August body.

Full Text of Speech of Shri Prithviraj Chavan, Chief Minister of Maharashtra

Hon'ble Prime Minister, Minister of Water Resources, Government of India and other dignitaries:

It is heartening to note that the National Water Resources Council is meeting today to consider an issue of major national importance, a matter that concerns each and every citizen of this country, that is the draft National Water policy, 2012.

The present National Water Policy was considered and approved in 2002. Ten years have passed and there has been significant changes in the socio economic environment. Our State therefore, appreciates the initiative of the Ministry of Water Resources to revisit the 2002 policy. It is noted that the draft NWP-2012 has been prepared after wide consultation with experts, academicians, corporate sector, panchayat raj institutions and the non government sector as well as the State Governments.

I feel happy and proud to state that Maharashtra has been in the forefront of implementing many water sector reforms and initiatives that were indicated in the National Water Policy of 2002.

As a follow up and on the basis of the National Water Policy-2002, our state immediately formulated and declared the State Water Policy in 2003 itself. Our water allocation priorities are in alignment with national policy. Thus, according to our state policy, water must be first made available for drinking water purposes, then for agriculture and thereafter for industrial and other needs.

Maharashtra was also the first State in the country to set up the Water Regulatory Authority by an Act of Legislature way back in 2005 itself. The Act enjoins upon the Regulatory Agency the task of establishing a water tariff system on a rational and scientific basis and to do so in consultation with the stakeholders.

The State Water Regulatory Authority has made significant progress in the various tasks assigned to it. The tariff order for the period 2010-13 was issued after exhaustive public consultation. Another important task of the Regulatory Authority is to enable the State to switch over from the practice of supplying water directly to individual farmers to supplying water through Water User Associations. The volumetric entitlement of each water user association is fixed and water is supplied to it strictly according to its quota after installing measurement devices at the supply point. This is an important step forward for increasing water use efficiency. So far 1270 Water User Associations have been covered by the entitlement programme.

Maharashtra State has also enacted Management of Irrigation Systems by Farmers (MMISF) Act in 2005.

We have also taken the important decision of entrusting the groundwater regulation to the Water Regulatory Authority for a holistic approach towards surface and groundwater management. Our state is determined to make the water Regulatory Authority an independent and effective body. The Maharashtra experience in water regulation has found favourable mention in the report of the Thirteenth Finance Commission which has offered incentives by way of additional maintenance grants to states who set up similar water regulators.

Groundwater is one amongst the state's most important natural resource. It provides drinking water to rural as well as urban communities, supports irrigation and industry, sustains the flow of streams and rivers and maintains wetland ecosystem. The state as elsewhere in India is facing rapid depletion of groundwater resources due to over exploitation.

Therefore, our state Legislature has recently enacted another pioneering Act, the first in the country, namely the Maharashtra Groundwater (Development and Management) Act to regulate and manage groundwater.

We note with satisfaction that many of the provisions in the draft 2012 are already part of our State Water Policy-2003 or being implemented as development policy by our state. We have already introduced benchmarking and a system of water audit for our water projects. Similarly, for many years our state has been consciously encouraging and subsidizing use of water efficient agricultural technologies like drip and sprinkler irrigation, which finds mention in 2012 water Policy. Our state has also been pioneer in watershed based development.

I would like to express my support for two important provisions in the draft Policy. One is the recommendation that a portion of river flows should be kept aside to meet ecological needs ensuring that the low and high flow releases are proportional to the natural flow regime, including base flow contribution in the low flow season through regulated ground water use. Another is the recommendation on Water Framework Law, the need to evolve a broad overarching national legal framework of general principles on water to lead the way for essential legislation on water governance in every State of the Union and devolution of necessary authority to the lower tiers of government to deal with the local water situation.

It is also noted that the draft Policy -2012 factors the climate change issues and adaptation strategies. In this context our state has already initiated a campaign, rather a movement, to plant one billion trees over the next few years to increase green cover. This initiative will hopefully protect the water sources and catchment areas, reduce soil erosion and siltation and mitigate climate change.

In the backdrop of the deliberations on water Policy in this forum, I would like to bring to your notice the water related concerns of our state.

As you are all aware, almost eighty percent of Maharashtra is rain fed. The projected irrigation potential is not beyond thirty percent of the total area. Therefore, appropriate support in agriculture or in similar areas need to be considered for states like Maharashtra which are not naturally endowed to reach the national average in irrigation.

Our effort has been to bring as much area as possible under the fold of irrigation. To overcome the natural handicaps in the availability of water, we are proposing the planning of basins/ sub-basins on the basis of the average annual water availability – subject of course to limitations put in by the awards of the river water dispute tribunals. It will be helpful if this requirement of the water short basins could be covered by appropriate wording in the National Water Policy under para 5 of the proposed draft which has been titled as "Enhancing water available for use".

We have another major challenge. More than one third of the state are in rain shadow area of the Western Ghats, commonly called the DPAP blocks. Year after year they have to face erratic monsoons, and the problems are exacerbated now with climate change. We now have many blocks with failed monsoons for two consecutive years where all sources of water are drying up. Such semi arid regions which even in normal years receive less than 75% of the State or national average rainfall, have no recourse but to augment their drinking water sources from distant sources. The additional cost of transporting water from distant sources needs to be supported so that it is not a burden on the local communities.

While one part of the state is facing the challenge of erratic monsoon year after year on the other side of the Sahyadris, the Konkan coast we receive 2000 to 3000 mm rainfall, and the fresh water reaches the sea through fast flowing short rivers. We have yet to find a method of harnessing this water for the local and water scanty areas on the other side of the mountains.

I also bring to notice another major challenge of our State. This emerges from the fact that we are a fast urbanizing State. Now almost half of our population is in urban areas. Many of them are million plus cities like Pune, Nashik, Aurangabad and Nagpur. Then, of course we have Mumbai Metropolitan area with over ten million populations. Besides we have a very strong manufacturing base, with high needs of water for industrial activities and for thermal plants. There are natural limits to sourcing fresh water for ever expanding cities and industrial needs. We therefore welcome the emphasis in the draft document on recycling and reuse of water, incentivizing economic use of water and on return of treated effluents of specified standards back to the hydrologic system. To operationalise this, our urban bodies and public institutions need financial and technical support of a high order.

Further, as a part of demand management, electronic meters need to be installed in almost crore of urban homes in the State. The local bodies or the consumers may not be able to defray such costs on their own. Here again, we request the Government of India to consider package to meet such new evolving needs.

I place these facts and concerns of our state so that suitable projects and schemes can be worked out by various Ministries of Government of India while operationalising the National Water Policy 2012.

The draft policy 2012 has emphasized the need for strengthening institutional arrangements, a highly professional data and information system and the need for developing skilled manpower in the water sector. We are willing to offer all support from the state Government side for any collaborative effort with Government of India to develop appropriate R&D and training centres, including upgrading of existing facilities of our water Resources Department.

I once again commend the initiative of the Government of India for bringing out this water Policy-2012 which is the need of the hour. Our state wholeheartedly welcomes and supports the provisions in draft National Water policy 2012.

Full Text of Speech of Shri Lal Thanhawla, Chief Minister of Mizoram

Hon'ble Prime Minister, Invited Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen

I am extremely delighted to attend this meeting, and I am all the more privileged to be able to address this august gathering.

At the outset, I would like to congratulate the Ministry of Water Resources for making it possible to lay the Draft National Water Policy 2012 in this meeting for review and finalization. As we are all aware, this revised draft, approved by the National Water Board, was prepared after taking into account, numerous newspaper reports and more than 600 comments received from various corners till February-end, in response to the initial draft. Carrying out such an enormous task is really laudable.

One of the very important concerns that are highlighted in the present document is the impact of land use and land cover changes on water availability and quality. The detrimental effect has been experienced in our State where shifting cultivation has been an indigenous occupation of the people. It has resulted in significant changes in the land use pattern, causing loss of soil fertility, depletion of natural forests, accelerated erosion and increase in sediment loads. It also leads to the problems of food security and increased poverty. The water sources are either drying up or depleted as a result of the Jhumming cultivation. Yes, water is a reflection of land use; and the health of our waters is the principle measure of how we live on the land. Hence, a land use decision is in essence a water decision.

It may not be out of place to mention that New Land Use Policy is being implemented in the state of Mizoram. This programme aims to progressively wean away Jhumia families from destructive Jhum practices and open opportunities for more productive and sustainable livelihood options. It will also be greatly instrumental in developing the water resources apart from being a poverty alleviation programme and providing a level playing field for the poor villagers in terms of economic opportunities.

I am also happy to inform you that the Public Health Engineering Department and the Central Young Mizo Association, the largest NGO in Mizoram has joined hands to address the issue of Source Water Protection/Water Catchment Protection and Artificial Recharging of Aquifers. To further this endeavour, the Government of Mizoram has recently formed a Water Resources Management Committee under the Chairmanship of the Chief Minister of Mizoram. This committee will look into the various issues of water resources management with a holistic and inter-disciplinary approach, through active involvement and consultation of various stakeholders.

The National water Policy 2002 Clause 6.5 has underlined the importance of giving special efforts to investigate and formulate projects either in, or for the benefit of, areas inhabited by tribal or other specially disadvantaged groups such as socially weak,

scheduled castes and scheduled tribe. It also states that project planning should pay special attention to the needs of castes and scheduled tribes and other weaker sections of the society. Further, the economic evaluation of projects benefiting such disadvantaged sections should also take these factors into account. However, this clause has been totally deleted in the present document. It would be highly appreciated if this specific clause could be inserted in the present document to address the unique needs and inspiration of the scheduled castes and scheduled tribe, and other weaker sections of the society.

Clause 3.4 of the draft documents underscores the need to strengthen the water use infrastructure in the water rich eastern and north eastern regions in the interest of food security. While this is welcome, policies to address the specific problems of hilly areas like sudden run off, weak water holding capacity of soil, erosion and sediment transport, recharging of hill-slope aquifers would have greatly benefitted the problems being faced in the hills. State Water Policy of Mizoram is under preparation and I am confident that the present policy document will contribute enormously in bringing out a policy which identifies, defines and addresses issues of quantity, quality and reliability of the state's water resources so as to achieve optimum, long term, environmentally sustainable social and economic benefits for the society by changing their water use behavior.

There is no gainsaying the fact that our country needs to quickly adopt this draft National Water Policy 2012 and agree on the manner in which policy should be administered, including its relationship with the several state agencies presently having responsibilities in the field of water resources.

I sincerely hope and wish that the collective wisdom experience and foresight of all the eminent participants in this august forum result in comprehensive and holistic solution to our pertinent water issues. I wish the very best and pray for its grand success.

Full Text of Speech of Shri Manohar Parrikar Chief Minister of Goa

Respected Prime Minister, Hon'ble Union Minister for Water Resources, my colleagues from other States, officials, invitees, ladies and gentlemen:

The meetings of the National Water Resources Council afford us a forum to deliberate on important policy proposals on water resources and to set our seal of approval on issues crystallizing through consensus. Previous meetings of this Council have resulted in the adoption of several important paradigm shifts in policies. I am sure this meeting will be no different though it has the single-point agenda of considering the National Water Policy (2012). We are gathering for this meeting after a gap of several years, a period punctuated by four meetings of the National Water Board. We are therefore picking up the threads after a fairly long gap in an environment actuated by the urgency for further reforms. Goa participated in the previous meetings of this Council and presented its dissentient views on several policy initiatives. Most of the views that we expressed at these meetings as at other related forums continue to be matters of concern to us. We believe that the test of the proposed policy is its ability to shield small and especially vulnerable states like Goa from unintended and unforeseen adverse effects. It is therefore a matter of satisfaction to me to participate in this meeting and articulate some of our views and concerns on several of the policy enunciations in the National Water Policy (2012). I propose to place on record our broad views and concerns without offering specific comments on the individual provisions of the proposed Policy.

STATE WATER POLICY

Goa was among the first of the few handful of States who showed farsightedness to formulate and adopt their own State Water Policies. Goa's State Water Policy is complementary and supplementary to the National Water Policy. The Government of Goa has already approved the Policy and put it into operation. Action points identified under the State Water Policy are under implementation. We are open to the idea of further refinements in the State Water Policy to bring it in line with the National Water Policy (2012).

GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT

Goa has for long recognized the importance of sound ground water management practices. Our actions in ground water exploitation and development have been informed by this awareness. Ten years ago, we enacted the Goa Ground Water Regulation Act, 2002 to regulate the extraction and transportation of ground water. Provisions of the Act are implemented through appropriate machinery, namely the Ground Water Cell.

As a prelude to taking up a comprehensive ground water development programme, Goa has assessed its dynamic ground water resources in collaboration with the Central Ground Water Board by using the 1997 methodology. The report estimates the net ground water availability in the state at 267 M.Cum. Against this estimated storage, the present ground water utilization stands at a comfortable level of about 33%. The chemical quality of ground water is also reported to be safe for domestic, industrial and other uses. To further substantiate the study with actual data, we have set up several observation wells under the world Bank- funded Hydrology Project-II of the Government of India to generate valuable long term ground water data. It should be possible with the aid of this data to launch a comprehensive and scientific programme for ground water management.

Hand in hand with exploitation of ground water, we are also sensitive to the needs of ground water recharge, especially during the eight-month long lean season. Looking to the peculiar needs of Goa, we have innovated a system of ground water recharge through post-monsoon water harvesting. As part of this programme, we have constructed a series of open-type bandharas to build up cascading storages along the courses of all the important rivers and streams. Aside from taking positive action for ground water recharge, we have taken action under the Goa Ground Water Regulation Act, 2002 to classify the entire State as Scheduled Area to regulate the exploitation and transportation of ground water. We are confident that these measures will usher in balanced and sustainable utilization of ground water.

ARTIFICIAL RECHARGE OF GROUND WATER

As mentioned earlier, Goa has already instituted an innovative method of ground water recharge through post monsoon water harvesting. Besides this post monsoon recharging, we are also looking at the need for taking up recharging of ground - water in certain select stressed areas. Industrial estates on plateaus in the state and the coastal areas, which are the preferred tourist destinations are localities where by far the greatest depletion of ground water has been reported.

PARTICIPATORY IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT

Extending our plan for codification of the laws on irrigation practices, we have already enacted the Goa Command Area Development Act and Rules. In furtherance of the objectives of the Act, Goa has also prepared and published the manual on Participatory Irrigation Management. To secure the participation of irrigators in irrigation management, water users Associations have also been formed in the command areas of the Salauli and Anjunem Irrigation Projects under the cooperative Societies Act. Such WUAs are also being formed in the command of the Tillari irrigation project. To involve these WUAs meaningfully in irrigation management, we have also delegated substantial functions such as the management of the subsidiary canal networks etc. to them.

STORAGE CAPACITY

As I just mentioned, we have completed the Salauli Irrigation Project, which is a major irrigation project in all respects. The other major irrigation project, the interstate Tillari irrigation Project is now in an advanced stage. To put the project on a fast track for completion by the set date, Goa has created the Goa Tillari Irrigation development Corporation. The Corporation - has mobilized financial resources for the project through market borrowings. The project is planned for completion by 2013. At present, no other major or medium projects are under Goa's consideration.

INTERLINKING OF RIVERS

On our own initiative we have completed two schemes for trans-basin transfer of water by interlinking rivers to transfer water from a water-surplus basin to a water-short basin. We can therefore claim that we have shown initiative in this regard without any prompting from the NWRC. The subject of interlinking of rivers, especially interstate rivers is one issue on which Goa has consistently called for caution and circumspection. We have reiterated our stand before almost all the forums on water resources. As I alluded to in my opening remarks, this is an issue on which we strongly desire that any proposed policy should take note of the vulnerabilities of states like Goa and hedge the proposed policy accordingly. If necessary, special exceptions should be made in the case of states placed similarly like Goa. I therefore wish to place on record our following views on the subject of interlinking of rivers. I am sure the Council will give them the serious consideration they no doubt merit from our perspective.

(a) Constitution of River Basin Organizations.

Goa believes that River Basin Organizations (RBOs) cannot be effective mechanisms in the resolution of disputes between basin States. It is Goa's settled conviction that with unfettered powers with no accountability to the State Legislatures, far from paving the way for resolving disputes between the basin States, RBOs will only further aggravate the disputes. Existing constitutional provisions for resolving such disputes through negotiations between the basin States failing which by adjudication under the Interstate River Water Disputes Act, 1956 with provisions in the decisions of the Tribunals for self-executing mechanisms have stood the test of time. There is therefore no justification for replacing such sound arrangements with organizations of un-proven efficacy such as the RBOS.

(b) Inter-basin transfer of water

Goa has strong objections against the policy of inter-basin transfer of water that does not take into account the long term in-basin needs of the state from which outside the basin diversions are proposed. Adequate and sufficient, I should say generous, provisions should be made for all the in-basin water uses such as irrigation, domestic and industrial use, navigation, salinity control, environmental management, etc. before any plans for outside the basin transfers could be

considered. Such uses should be projected for long-term future requirements, preferably for fifty years. While envisaging any outside-the-basin transfers, it is equally essential to critically examine the need for the recipient basin State for importing water from other basins, especially to verify whether such needs could not be met from other river basins falling wholly within the recipient State's boundaries or from other indigenous sources.

Lastly, I would like to state that the vision for which the policy is envisaged should be implemented by the Centre and the states in right perspectives. As seen in several cases, lower riparian states tend to suffer in interstate rivers. Here I would like to bring to the notice of this august gathering the diversion of Mhadei (Mahadayi) river by Karnataka. Mhadei is a west-flowing interstate river flowing through Goa, Karnataka and Maharashtra. Goa is the lowermost riparian state of co-basin states and also has the largest geographical area in the basin followed by Karnataka and Maharashtra. The total basin area of the rivers is about 2032 sqkms, out of which 1580 sqkms is in the State of Goa. Mhadei River is a lifeline of Goa, the basin area in Goa constituting about 42.70% of the area of the State. Karnataka has started with a diversion scheme on Kalsa nallah which is a tributary of river Mhadei without permissions/ authorizations nor EIA studies. The work is in full swing and Karnataka wants to complete this project and make the same a fait accompli for acceptance. Goa has objected to this illegal diversion at various forums. I would like to bring to the notice of this forum that such policies will only be on paper if such acts are accepted as fait accompli. It would also be prudent to state that such diversions from deficient basins in Goa by upper co-basin states will be opposed at all forums.

I would also cite the case of Tillari Irrigation project which is a joint venture of Government of Goa and Maharashtra. Tillari Irrigation Project is a joint venture of Governments of Goa and Maharashtra and an agreement was signed for the same in 1990. Goa has fulfilled all the requirements as per the agreement. However some local hurdles have delayed the releases of water to Goa which was envisaged on 09.12.2012. The project, which is in final stages of completion is presently irrigating about 4000 Ha of land and also supplying drinking water to the tune of 120 MLD to North Goa. Government of Goa has been constantly requesting Government of Maharashtra to release the water to Goa. However, no steps have been taken or envisaged by Government of Maharashtra to release the same. Rabi season has already started and the crops are in dire straits for requirement of water. Also the drinking water supply to North Goa has been severely affected during the peak tourism season. It should be the endeavour of Maharashtra to honour its commitments and agreement to supply water to Goa.

Such actions also warrant immediate action on part of the Centre to resolve the issue and bring solace to smaller states like Goa in true spirit of the National Water Policy.

Full Text of Speech of Shri Jagadish Shettar, Chief Minister of Karnataka

My dear Respected Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Manmohan Singh ji, Shri Harish Rawat ji, Union Minister for Water Resources, Shri Montek Singh Ahluwalia ji, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission and all the Chief Ministers of the States, Shri Dhruv Vijay Singh, Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources.

2) At the outset let me acknowledge and congratulate the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Manmohan Singh ji and the Union Minister for Water Resources for bringing out the Draft National Water Policy 2012. I have great pleasure to present in front of this august gathering the views of Karnataka on the draft National Water Policy 2012 and the related vision and programs undertaken by Government of Karnataka. I heartily congratulate Government of India for bringing out the draft National Water Policy 2012 which is more holistic and addresses various complexes, multi-dimensional facets of the water resources in the country.

3) It is high time that a well thought over National Water Policy is evolved which can enable us to handle the water not only today but also to enable the future generations to lead a secure, safe and comfortable life for which water is the fundamental and basic need of the humanity. It is always very important that a critical analysis of the present situation is highly essential as that would be the base on which the National policy need to be based on. Rightly the draft National Policy has attempted a general introduction assessing the situation in a highly simplistic way by taking into cognizance the general and well known statements like growing population, water being a scarce resource, uneven distribution, lack of public consciousness, deepening water conflicts and climate change suggesting a unified perspective on the water resources management.

4) While I agree that the public policy on water needs to be based on certain basic principles, the principles that are envisaged are too broad and they do not specifically enable each one of us to address the water issues with a long term vision. The biggest challenge for the state of Karnataka and many other states is to utilize its share of water and complete all the on-going projects at the earliest possible as each year of delay in completing the project results in huge escalation of the costs.

5) **Water Framework Law**

(i) While we agree to evolve a broad over-arching national legal frame work as envisaged in the Constitution of India, we need to realize that the water is a State subject. While framing any National Legal Frame Work, care should be taken not to infringe on any of the state's right to manage water resources for its own use for two basic reasons:

- Water problems are always local in nature and therefore, they need local solutions.
- Water related issues are always dynamic in nature.

(ii) Therefore, any proposed solution to the water problems should be according to the changed and local situation and discretion to tackle these problems by the States has to be well incorporated. Therefore, the proposed Water Frame Work Law should be based on providing broad guidelines rather than specific directions.

6) **River Basin Development**

(i) The river basin development and efforts to utilize maximum potential should be aimed with coordination and cooperation of the co-basin states.

(ii) The past experience of us with both the Legislations made and the Authorities created has not been successful, especially dealing with distress situations. The long pending cases in the Hon'ble Supreme Court are a clear indicator in this regard. Therefore, a suitable mechanism has to be evolved which will facilitate the basin states to decide on the equitable and justful sharing based on the ground realities rather than creating more and more Authorities.

7) **Inter-Linking of Rivers**

Maximum harnessing of water resources in terms of not only harnessing of river basin, but also a feasible inter-linking of rivers has to be implemented in the next five year plan. This has to be incorporated in great detail in the present proposal NWP-2012.

8) **Usage of Water**

Water is essential as a sustainable livelihood and also it is the basic fuel for food security. In addition, it is an economic good too. Care should be taken that there is no confrontation between agriculture sector, domestic sector and industrial sector.

9) **Enhancing water available for use**

The water use efficiency is very minimum in local bodies. It has to be enhanced through recycling and treatment. The largest water consumption is in irrigation. There is a need to bring in efficiency in terms of better utilization of source, improving conveyance efficiency and use of micro-irrigation system. A study shows that by a combination of above 25% of the water can be saved by adopting above methods. As per one estimate, this saving can bridge supply and demand gap.

10) **Water Auditing**

There is an immediate need for water auditing regarding the water usage by modern technology and methods. Through this, better utilization of water and sectoral confrontation can be avoided, This will bring discipline in cropping patterns, yields as well as productivity.

11) **Water Pricing**

The capital spent on water should be treated as an investment rather than expenditure. However, to maintain the water system efficiency, there should be a minimum water charges. Therefore, any mechanism that is evolved should be scientific and to be a very micro part of a total agriculture production of that particular year which should be assessed at the end of the year and this can be secured by an agricultural insurance cover. While envisaging the water rates, the stakeholders like farmers, domestic consumers should be part of the decision making.

12) **Project Planning - 3 Es**

As far as Project Planning and implementation is concerned, a standardization of project planning has to be done which is possible through different modeling methodologies. The project planning includes engineering, economics and ecology (3 Es). These 3 Es should be dealt with a holistic approach rather than piecemeal which is now in practice. As far as project implementation is concerned, a robust project management system software needs to be created for a timely completion of a project. The land related laws have to be made project friendly since they are the greatest impediments in project implementation. Post Independence, the capital investment by the Government of India and States is too low compared to number of people depending on water, food production which is ever increasing.

13) **Permanent Water Dispute Tribunal**

Permanent Water Dispute Tribunal should be established in the Apex Court and its benches at all the States' High Courts on the lines of the Green Bench. It should have a sitting Supreme Court Judge as its Chairperson with multi-members with the experts from technical, environmental, geological, economical and legal fields.

14) **Water Resource Policy and the 12th Five Year Plan**

(i) Hon'ble Prime Minister, it is clear to all of us, that the Water Resources Policy must support the vision in the 12th Five Year Plan, apart from enabling the states to realize IWRM principles while embarking on sustainable development. The 12th Five Year Plan objectives are sectoral and water resource intensive, contrary to the focus of the National Water Policy which aims at driving the water resource management on the basis of the river basin approach. Therefore, this needs to be integrated.

(ii) The goals in the Water Resource Policy and the 12th Five year plan need to be translated into key water resources policies and strategies, programs and customized for the major basins, and then specified to the particular attributes of the various sub-basins. Government of India must support the states with technical and financial resources to develop such a suite of policies, strategies and programs, This needs to be addressed as a matter of priority.

15) Initiatives of Government of Karnataka which has relevance to National Water Policy

There are many similarities between the elements of the draft National Water Policy 2012 and the actions already undertaken by Government of Karnataka in the last five years and with the support of the Government of India:

- **River Basin Organizations (RBOs):** The need to undertake water resources analysis, planning and management on the basis of hydrologic units, principally river basins and groundwater aquifers; Government of Karnataka had established, 8 to 10 years ago, three Irrigation Corporations separately for Upper Krishna Basin, Lower Krishna Basin and Cauvery Basin in the State. Government of Karnataka have now made background studies and is preparing to go beyond irrigation and address issues of other sectors related to water use and pilot this in Tungabhadra sub-basin.
- **Water Auditing:** Water Auditing is the most important factor in water management. The time gap between excess flows in canals and control over these flows is so high. Huge excess water losses are noticed as a result of it. Therefore, to achieve concurrent audit real time measurement and flow of water electronic flow meters have been installed in the GhataPrabha Left Bank Canal (GLBC) system in Karnataka. As a result of this, we could achieve substantial savings by reducing the excess usage of water as a prerequisite to maintain real time flow and reports are generated at real time which will ensure better management of water. All the important gates are controlled through SCADA systems.
- **Shiggaon Micro Irrigation Project:** Government of Karnataka also piloted micro-irrigation in 10,000 acres at Shiggaon in Northern Karnataka for effecting water savings and enhancing the water use efficiency.
- **Stabilization of atchkats as well as bring efficiency in conveyance capacity:** Remodeling and restructuring of our old irrigation projects is inevitable. Modernization of canal systems has been taken up under Ghataprabha Left Bank Canal (GLBC), Malaprabha, Bhadra, Tungabhadra Left Bank Canal (TLBC), Katteपुरa, Cahamaraja, Kabini and Harangi canal systems. It is also proposed to take up in Vijayanagara, Gondhi and Tunga this year.
- **Water Use Efficiency:** Adoption of a demand management approach and Water Use Efficiency. Government of Karnataka had submitted a proposal to National Water Mission to enhance the Water Use Efficiency (WUE) by 25 to 30% in Narayanpur Left Bank Canal (NLBC) costing Rs. 4260 crores and Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR) was kind enough to support with preparation of DPR for the same with the assistance of ICRISAT and International Water Management Institute (IWMI).

- **Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) 3-D Survey:** LiDAR technology is a GPS based laser beam equipment used for conducting civil engineering survey in all terrains in a short span. Accurate collection of data points, transferring of GTS benchmarks, setting up of control net work along baseline and FRL boundary of reservoir. This technology adopts terrestrial and mobile equipment for large areas survey work. Processing of survey data and transferring to maps can be carried out without affecting the standing crops. LIDAR survey is adopted in Upper Krishna Project (UKP) Stage III and Upper Bhadra Projects.
- **Soil Health Card:** Soil is a living body and will be losing its health due to wrong usage. To check the health of the soil at regular periodicity, Government of Karnataka has initiated the programme called Soil Health Card, The Soil Health Card includes the ownership details, physical properties of the soil, chemical assessment of the soil including the ph values on the basis of which the recommended dosage of fertilizer based on the crop and the depth of water to be allowed for different crops, The benefits of the soil health card include and enable the farmers to know the soil fertility status and to adopt accordingly a scientific management of land and water.
- **IWRM Initiative:** Government of Karnataka established an independent Advanced Centre for Integrated Water Resources Management (AC-IWRM) to create an enabling environment for the state government to pursue the set objectives in the declared Irrigation Decade (2011 - 2020) to move towards achieving water and food security in the State. The Partnerships would provide continuous support and introduce internationally best leading practices to the AC-IWRM in building IWRM approaches suited to the Karnataka State. Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (UN-FAO) would support the Centre in becoming an international centre of excellence.
- **Directorate of Command Area Development Authority (CADA):** Government of Karnataka has recently established a Directorate of CADA to Promote focused and system oriented approach to the development of the command areas and to adopt the principles of the Integrated Water Resources Management. The emphasis has been on convincing the farmers on the scientific management of land and water including reclamation of 88,800 hectares of water logged, saline and alkaline affected lands in the command area.
- **Rapid Appraisal procedure - Mapping System & Services for Canal Operation Techniques (RAP-MASSCOTE):** With the support of UN-FAO, we initiated Rapid Appraisal of the Irrigation systems and applied RAP-MASSCOTE technique for benchmarking the performance of the systems and sensitizing the engineers to undertake water balance as a major issue in water management effectively.
- **Water Supply and Sanitation:** Government of Karnataka is according high priority to improve basic infrastructure services in the state and has identified water supply and

sanitation as an area of critical concern and carried out a study with support of Infrastructure Development Corporation of Karnataka (IDeCK) for identification of the improvements and interventions required in the service delivery of water supply system and review of current institutional framework to bring about effective water management leading to sustainable water supply integrating surface and groundwater management.

- **Water policy implementation:** As the draft National Water Policy 2012 had ventured into addressing many complex issues in a holistic manner, Government of India must support the states in areas such as Climate change, Demand management and Water Use Efficiency, Conservation of river corridors, water bodies and infrastructure, Management of Floods and Droughts, Water Supply and Sanitation, Database & Information Systems, Capacity Building efforts and Research support to enable states to implement the policy in an effective manner.
- **Areas for addition to or improvement in the policy:** Drafting a simple, concise and encompassing vision statement for the water policy, possibly along the lines of:

"Scientific and sustainable management of water resources to get the maximum water, food and energy security by balancing the demands of various sectors and to ensure harmonious sharing and utilization of resources by mutual understanding and coordination of various stakeholders."

- (i) The 2012 status of water resources and use might be updated in the new policy document providing a critique of the current legal framework's ability to manage water resources along the lines of the new policy.
- (ii) An important missing component is that relating to service delivery which involves operation of water resource systems in an efficient, consistent and transparent manner and communicating the operational processes to water users.

16) CONCLUSION

(i) We do not have a water regime in our country. None of the present laws are able to establish a just water regime to the satisfaction of all the stakeholders. Present laws with their historical origin with British rule create more disputes because of several loose ends in the present Acts and Laws. Therefore the Inter State Water Disputes Act should be revisited. In some cases Government of India stand has delayed the projects which can be otherwise,

(ii) The absence of a water regime had been forcing us to go to the Hon'ble Supreme Court, by which the GOI is trying to absolve its conciliatory role which is prescribed by the Constitution of India, which is an expected role being the Head of the Federal Structure, which need to be strongly established. I am making this statement because Karnataka as a mid and upper riparian state suffered in both utilization and construction of projects which resulted in depriving the people of Karnataka their due and legal right of their share of water.

(iii) Finally I would like to conclude by reiterating what I said earlier that the fundamental issues relating to water need to be understood and a renewed National Water Policy need to be developed. Government of India in general need to play a proactive role not only in the development and management of water resources across the country in a highly professional way but also ensure that the inter-state disputes are sorted out amicably keeping the overall interests of the country and also strengthening the federal structure what we have envisaged under the Constitution of India.

Full Text of Speech of Shri Bhupinder Singh Hooda, Chief Minister of Haryana

Respected Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh Ji, Respected Union Minister for Water Resources, Sh. Harish Rawat Ji, other Union Ministers, fellow Chief Ministers and Ministers from the States, Administrators of Union Territories, Officers, Ladies and Gentlemen!

2. First of all, I will like to express my sincere thanks to the Hon'ble Prime Minister for calling this important meeting of the National Water Resources Council. Water today has become one of the most critical and contentious issues globally as well as locally. In the last one decade, the per capita water availability in India has reduced since 2001 from 1816 cubic meter to 1588 cubic meter. The situation in Haryana is much more worrisome as the water availability in the State is only 14 MAF as compared to the requirement of 36 MAF. Even at the global scale the situation is not very encouraging. Therefore, the importance of this sector cannot be overemphasized.

3. The National Water Resources Council was set up in the year 1983. In the last 29 years or so, the Council has met only five times and we are assembled here today for the 6th meeting. The last meeting was held about ten years ago to finalize the National Water Policy of 2002. We are meeting today to consider the draft of the National Water Policy of 2012.

4. Incidentally, laying down the national water policy happens to be only one of the seven listed functions of this Council. In my view the Council would be failing in its duty if it continues to ignore its other responsibilities which are equally important. In this context, I would like to submit that, firstly, the Council should meet more frequently; and secondly, it should deliberate on its other functions as well, including the modalities of resolving interstate water related differences.

5. Coming to the specific context of Haryana, a number of significant developments have taken place since the last meeting of the Council in the year 2002. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has passed an order, twice, for construction and completion of the Satluj Yamuna Link (SYL) Canal. Although a huge amount has been spent on the construction of SYL canal, the canal has not been operationalised till date in spite of the specific directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

6. Our neighbouring State has enacted a law terminating water related agreements and the Union Government, instead of effectively intervening to annul such an arbitrary act of a constituent State of the Union, has allowed the Presidential Reference on the subject to linger on for more than eight years. The people of Haryana are feeling betrayed. Furthermore, the final award of the Ravi Beas Tribunal has not been published even after 25 years. Even this Council is shying away from its mandate in this regard and the issue is not even listed for discussion.

7. The people of Haryana have several other grievances. Although the state has its legitimate share in the Ravi and Beas rivers, as part of the erstwhile Punjab, but it has been denied its share in the power generated from the Thein Dam constructed unilaterally on the interstate river Ravi, without involving the co-basin states of the Indus basin. We have been raising this issue at various forums including the Planning Commission in the context of the Shahpur Kandi Project on river Ravi, but there is no resolution in sight.

8. The storage projects on the tributaries of Yamuna river, namely, at Renuka, Kishau and Lakhwar Vyasi have been pending for a long time. This delay is proving expensive not only in terms of cost escalation but also in terms of the precious water going waste by default. I would like to take this opportunity to request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to intervene in the matter and issue directions for expeditious action on all these projects.

9. Now I come to some specific issues proposed in the draft National Water Policy which is before us today. We all know that under the constitutional scheme, water is a State subject. Viewed from this prospective, the proposed National Framework Law in the draft Policy could be misconstrued as an encroachment on the States' constitutional jurisdiction. However, it has been clarified that this framework law is an umbrella statement of general principles governing the exercise of the legislative or executive power of the Centre, the States and the Local Governing Bodies. As far I understand, such a framework law could at best be in the form of a set of general guiding principles.

10. As regards the constitution of River Basin Authorities proposed in para 2.3 of the draft National Water Policy 2012, I would like to make a suggestion for consideration of this august body. The States which are part of the basin by virtue of their being partner States, as is the case of Haryana in the context of Ravi and Beas rivers, they should be part of the River Basin Authorities. But the states which have a nominal area (less than 250 hectares or so) should not be included in such authorities.

11. The idea of setting up of Water Regulatory Authorities in the States as suggested in para 7 of the draft Policy appears quite logical. But at this stage food security concerns are of overriding importance. Therefore, we may keep the irrigation water meant for food production outside the purview of these authorities, if at all these are to be set up. In this context, I may like to mention that the 13th Finance Commission has already mandated the setting up of such authorities by linking their constitution with the devolution of funds to the states. I would request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to intervene in the matter so that the major contributors to the national food basket are not put to any disadvantage on this account. Similarly, the suggestion of having water audit, etc. are indeed very laudable, but we need to wait for the appropriate time to implement such measures. These must not be allowed to become unnecessary obstacles in the development process.

12. The proposal to set up a permanent Water Disputes Tribunal at the Centre to resolve disputes expeditiously in an equitable manner would indeed be a welcome step.

But at the same time, the Centre should also take necessary steps to ensure timely implementation of the orders/directions of the various Tribunals or Courts. The Government of India should put in place such mechanisms that the decisions of various Tribunals and Courts are implemented in a time bound-manner.

13. Then there is a suggestion for managing water as a common pool of community resource. This concept, before acted upon, needs careful consideration as it involves a number of issues, such as food security concerns; ecological concerns; commercial concerns; issues related to personal consumption versus commercial exploitation etc. In the absence of well developed scientific protocols in this regard, it would be counterproductive to implement the idea of declaring the ground water as a community resource.

14. While we lay down the policy framework on water, we also need to underline the urgency and importance of its implementation and monitoring. Even with regard to the 2002 National Water Policy, a number of ideas have yet to be acted upon.

15. As far as Haryana is concerned, I am happy to report that we have been quite proactive in achieving optimum utilization of water. The State observed the year 2011 as the year of water conservation. Even with the meagre availability of surface water and more than 40% of the State area having brackish groundwater, Haryana has been one of the leading contributors to the national food basket. Proper water management strategies have enabled the State Government to protect the crops during Kharif this year when the State was facing a drought like situation.

16. Haryana State has done a pioneering work by laying down an extensive irrigation canal network comprising nearly 1400 channels having a length of 13600 KM. Ever since 1966, the area irrigated by canals has seen an increase of 65%. The State has already constituted the State Water Resources Council. In the urban areas, rain water harvesting structures have been made compulsory so that no water is allowed to go waste.

17. I am of the firm view that unless we revolutionise the irrigation technology, the aim of water conservation will remain a distant dream. We need to look at the available cutting edge technologies, especially in the agriculture and horticulture sectors. We have to move away from flood irrigation practices to modern methods of irrigation, such as drip irrigation, sprinkler irrigation etc. I have extensively toured the various parts of Israel where such technologies are being used on a vast scale. In fact, even the sewage water is being accounted for and its every drop is recycled and reused. I am sure there are other places where such advanced technologies are in practice. What I mean to say is that we need to adopt a scientific approach on the subject. In this context, I would appeal to the Government of India to incentivize adoption of efficient and modern technologies in the overall interest of everyone.

18. We need to look at 'water' from various angles. We have to look at drinking water as an essential commodity for the mankind. We have to look at water requirements for

maintaining standards of hygiene and sanitation. We also need to strike a balance between competitive uses of water and environmental concerns. Then we have to also look at the sustainability of natural streams which are already under a serious threat from climate change and pollution.

19. I would like to propose that a National Fund should be set up which must be dedicated to all types of measures needed for protection and conservation of water resources. We have already seen the concept of "energy efficient buildings" in practice. The time has come to think of "water efficient buildings" and "water efficient industries" as well. A dedicated fund of this nature will also help in carrying forward the research and development in this important area.

20. With these words, I would like to thank the Hon'ble Prime Minister and the Hon'ble Minister for Water Resources for convening this meeting and also for giving me this opportunity to share with you the views of Haryana Government on the draft National Water Policy 2012.

Full Text of Speech of Shri Arjun Munda, Chief Minister of Jharkhand

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Full Text of Speech of Shri Newlai Tingkhatra, Minister for Water Resources Department, Arunachal Pradesh

I am very happy to participate in today's 6th National Water Resources Council meeting on behalf of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh, being organized by the Ministry of Water Resources. It is heartening that this meeting is for a noble cause and organized to invite the views of various State Governments for finalization and adoption of National Water Policy-2012. The Government of Arunachal Pradesh welcomes the initiatives of the organizers for such participatory discussions to address the challenging issues that we have on water sector.

While availing this opportunity, I would like to briefly touch upon the background of my State in the light of water resources sector and its impact on socio-economic conditions. My State, consisting of 26 major tribes and numerous sub-tribes with rich tribal customs and traditions, is geographically the largest among the hill States of North-East India. Physiographic feature of the State is predominantly rugged, encompassing the foothill ranges of Himalayas and extending to the high Himalayas along Indo-Tibetan Border, Bhutan and Myanmar. The basin area is largest within Indian Territory and accounts for 46%. Heavy Monsoon rainfall brings widespread damages to the infrastructure, bank erosion and flooding to non-forest agricultural and habitable limited flat lands of the State which accounts for less than 12% of geographical area. It is very much pertinent to raise here that our State along with other State of the country had submitted proposal for ADB funding to mitigate the flood related problems, but our State's proposal was dropped, where as other State are enjoying the ADB Grants, so our State be provided with adequate internal fund for mitigating flood related havocs. The Himalayan Rivers are glacier fed and extreme climatic events are increasing, combination of extreme monsoon rainfall, steep slopes. Though richest in water resources potential, Arunachal Pradesh is considered as one of the most underdeveloped states of India as per average national development indicators in respect of agriculture, industry, transport, communication, education, health and many other aspects.

I welcome National Water Policy-2012 which broadly covers the needs of the States. Several direct and indirect benefits would automatically accrue from its full adoption. Enhanced water Supply would be realized with improved availability, quality of fresh water and reliability for agricultural, municipal, industry, energy and environmental needs.

Arunachal has many rivers with huge hydro-power potential if properly tapped would supply electricity not only within the State but also in major parts of the country and would earn massive amount of revenue for the State and also it would boost tourism and hotel industries etc. in the State. Goals of National Water Policy will be realized when the Central Government generously commit enough resources to its

implementation and sustenance. Like any other sector of economy, water policy needs to be financially supported by the Central Government.

The tribal population typically has a lifestyle sustained by agriculture on cultivable flat lands combined with traditional shifting or Jhum cultivation on hilly slopes. Despite shifting cultivation and other economic activities the State has maintained 82% forest cover and rich flora & fauna. Since, our State has got only about 10% of flat land the terrace cultivation may be given more emphasis especially for our State during finalisation of 12th Five Year Plan Policy. It is endeavour of our Government to further increase the green cover through rubber and tea plantations. There is a need to incorporate economic incentives in the policy as such States are under tremendous economic pressure to do away with preservation of environment. I urge upon the Central Government for generosity in rewarding the dividend for maintaining forest cover in the form of green bonus to Arunachal Pradesh.

There are so many other important aspects of water resources sector to deliberate upon, but today's agenda is structured in the context of adoption of National Water Policy 2012. Therefore, the main issues to be placed before the distinguished dignitaries are on the needs of financial support and incentive in the form of green package for reduction of carbon footprint for backward States to facilitate goal achievement of National Water Policy. The Government of Arunachal Pradesh endorses National Water Policy-2012 for adoption. I am confident that today's 6th National Water Resources Council meeting would be meaningful and would come out with concrete actions keeping in view the aspirations of our nation. I am sure that the outcome of this meeting will help State Government in formulating strategies for meeting future challenges on water sector.

Full Text of Speech of Shri Akhilesh Yadav, Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh

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KkrO; gS fd jk’V^{ah}; ty lalk/ku ifj’kn ¼,u-MCyw-vkj-lh-½ }kjk fnukad 01 vizSy] 2002 dks jk’V^{ah}; ty uhfr] 2002 dks viuk;k x;k Fkka “kgjhdj.k] vkS|ksfxdhdj.k] cnyrs ekSle&pdz rFkk HkwxHkZ ty ds fxjrs Lrj tSlh orZeku ifjn””; dh pqukSfr;ksa ds n`f`Vxr~ mDr uhfr esa la”kks/ku fd;k tkuk vko”;d gSA rnuqlkj izLrkfor uhfr ij fopkj&foe”kZ dj mls vfUre #i fn;k tkuk vR;f/kd ykHkdkjh gksxkA

i;kZoj.k ekSle rFkk gkbM^aksykWftdy pdz esa yxkrkj cnyko gks jgs gSaA bl ds vfrfjDr d`f`k ,oa xSj d`f`k t#jrkSa rFkk vU; lkekftd izfrc}rkvksa dks /;ku esa j[krs gq, jk’V^{ah}; ty uhfr 2012 esa bl lECU/k esa lFkZd fopkj&foe”kZ fd;k tkuk vko”;d gSA

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ekU;oj] vki lger gksaxs fd Hkkjrh; Hkksxkf/kdkj vf/kfu;e&1882 esa fdlh izdkj ds ifjorZu gsrq jpukRed fopkj&foe”kZ ,oa o`gn lkekftd ifjn””; dk laKku ysdj dk;Zokgh dh tk;A Hkkjr o`kZ ,d fo”kky ns”k gS vkSj tc rd izR;sd [ksr ;k ?kj rd ikuh igqapkus dh lkoZtfud O;oLFkk ifjiDo ugh gks tkrh gS] tc rd Hkksxkf/kdkj vf/kfu;e esa la”kks/ku djus ls iwoZ vkSj vf/kd ifjiDo fopkj&foe”kZ jkT;ksa ls fd;s tkus dh vko”;drk gSA

mRrj izns”k dh flapkbZ O;oLFkk u dsoy ,sfrgkfld gS vfirq jkT; esa ufn;ksa o ugjksa dk cgqr cM+k usVodZ miyC/k gSA loZizFke ;euk dSuky dk fuekZ.k o`kZ 1823 esa gqvkA izns”k esa 74000 fdeh0 yEch ugj iz.kkfy;ksa] 29600 jktdh; uydwiksa] 273 iEi dSukyksa ,oa 65 tyk”k;ksa ls jktdh; flapkbZ lqfo/kk rFkk futh uydwiksa ,oa vU; lk/kuksa ls flapkbZ dh lqfo/kk miyC/k djkbZ tk jgh gSA eq>s crkrs gq, izLUurk gks jgh gS fd izns”k ljdkj us vius ladYi ds vuq#i fdlkuska ds fgr esa ugjksaa ,oa jktdh; uydwikas esa flpkbZa gsrw fdlkuska dks eq¶r ikuh miyC/k djkus dk fu.kZ; fy;k gSA o`kksZ ls v/kwjh iM+h flapkbZ ifj;kstuvksa dks le;c) #i ls iw.kZ djus ds fy, yxHkx #0 20]000 djksM+ ds fuos”k ls

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eSa crkuk pkgwaxk fd jkT; ljdkj flapkbZ iz.kkyh dks vkSj csgrj cukus ds fy, vusd mik; dj jgh gSA blesa vUrjkZ’V^{ah}; ekud ds vuq#i ty mi;ksx {kerk esa o`f}] U;wure ty lalk/ku dh ekax vkSj vkiwfrZ ds fy, oSKkfud&fof/k vk/kkfjr fu;kstu] ck<+ izcU/ku ds fy, vk/kqfud izkS|ksfxdh dk iz;ksx] d`f`k] is;ty rFkk m|ksx esa mi;ksx ds fy, vif”k’V ty dk iqu% mi;ksx vkSj ufn;ksa dks iznw’k.k ls cpkuk lFEefyr gSA blds lkFk gh lwpu izkS|ksfxdh tfur lek/kku lfgr fu;a=.k d{k] gkbM^aksykWftdy losZ lfgr LdkMk iz.kkyh fodflr fd;k tkuk] lrg ty vkSj Hkwty dk lefUor mi;ksx] ugjksa] uydwiksa] dqvksa rFkk tyk”k;ksa vkfn vU; ty lzkrsa dh lesfdr ty vkiwfrZ iz.kkyh fodflr ,oa la;ksftr djus dh Hkh dk;Zokgh dh tk jgh gSA ty lap;u esa o`f) ,oa LFkkuh; fLFkfr ds vuqlkj vk/kqfud izkS|ksfxdh dks viukdj ty dk vf/kdre~ mi;ksx djuk ,oa tynk;h Lrj ¼Aquifer½ dks pktZ djus dh pqusSfr;ksa dks izns”k ljdkj }kjk HkwxHkZ ty laj{k.k] o`kkZ ty lap;u rFkk HkwxHkZ ty fjpktZ gsrq lez HkwxHkZ ty uhfr cuk;h tk jgh gSA bu leLr dk;ksZ esa Hkkjr ljdkj ds lfdz; lg;ksx dh vis{kk gSA

bl ekSds ij eSa izns”k ljdkj dh vksj ls dsUnz ljdkj ds izfr vkHkkj O;Dr djuk pkgwWxk fd lj;w ifj;kstuk dks jk’V^{ah}; ifj;kstuk ?kksf’kr dj fn;k x;k gS rFkk “kkjnk] “kkjnk lgk;d ifj;kstuk dks Hkh jk’V^{ah}; ifj;kstuk ?kksf’kr djus dh izfdz;k py jgh gSA bls izns”k ds yxHkx 35 ftyksa dh flpkabZ O;oLFkk dks lqn`<+ fd;k tk ldsxk rFkk bu tuinksa ds fdlluksa dks bls vR;Ur ykHk gksxkA “kkjnk] “kkjnk lgk;d ifj;kstuk dks jk’V^{ah}; ifj;kstuk esa “kkfey fd;s tkus ls fo”ks’k #i ls izns”k ds jk;cjsyh] izrkix<+] lqYrkuiqj ,oa vU; {ks= ds fdlluksa dks vHkwriwoZ ykHk gksxkA cqUnsy[k.M esa v/kwjh flapkbZ ;kstukvksa dks iw.kZ djus ds fy, 1240 djksM+ #i;s dh vfrfjDr dsUnzh; lgk;rk nsus ds fy, Hkh ;kstuk vk;ksx] Hkkjr ljdkj }kjk lgefrr nh x;h gSA ckjgoha iapo’khZ; ;kstuk esa Hkh flapkbZ O;oLFkk lqn~<+ djus gsrq #0 31]418 djksM+ #i;s dk izko/kku fd;k x;k gSA mDr lalk/ku d`f`k esa ty ds mi;ksx rFkk ck<+ izcU/ku vkfn ds fy, mi;ksxh gksaxsA ysfdu ty laj{k.k] ty iznw’k.k] is;ty leL;k ds fujkdj.k gsrq Hkh leqfpr /ku dh O;oLFkk djuh gksxhA

izns”k esa flapkbZ gsrq vko”;d ty dh deh dks iwjk djus] ck<+ dh leL;k ds funku ds fy, fVgjh ckW/k tyk”k; dks iwjh {kerk ls Hkjus] js.kqdk ckW/k] fdlkÅ ckW/k] y[kokM+&O;klh ckW/k ifj;kstukvksa dks vfr”kh?kzrk ls iwjk dj; s tkus rFkk usiky jk’V^a ds lkFk iaps”oj] useqjs ,oa djukyh ckW/kksa dk fuekZ.k izkjEHk fd;s tkus gsrq Hkkjr ljdkj ds gLr{ksi dh vko”;drk gSA ufn;ksa dks tksM+us dh ;kstuk ds varxZr fnukad 25-08-2005 dks m0 iz0 jkT;] e/; izns”k jkT; ,oa dsUnz ljdkj }kjk gLrk{kfjr le>kSrk Kkiu ds dze esa dsu&csrok fyad ifj;kstuk ds fdz;kUo;u gsrq le;c) dk;Zokgh fd;k tkuk vko”;d gSA

;|fi xaxk unh dks jk’V^{ah}; unh ?kksf’kr fd;k x;k gS rFkk jk’V^{ah}; xaxk fjoj csflu vFkkfjVh dk xBu fd;k x;k gS ysfdu xaxk&;equk dh vfojy ,oa fueZy /kkjk cuk;s j[kus ds fy, lez iz;kl fd;s tkus dh vko”;drk gSA blds lkFk gh ckjgoha iapo’khZ; ;kstuk esa izns”k dh ufn;ksa esa ty miyC/krk c<+k;s tkus ds fy, gkbM^aksykWftdy losZ{k.k ,oa v/;u dj;k tkuk vko”;d gSA

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mRrj izns" k ds fo" kky d` f`k {ks= ds n` f`Vxr~ ftl izdkj Hkkjr ljdkj us lj;w ifj;kstuk dks jk'V^{ah}; ifj;kstuk ?kksf'kr fd;k gS] mlh izdkj "kkjnk&"kkjnk lgk;d dh lesfdr {kerk iquZLFkkiuk ifj;kstuk dks Hkh jk'V^{ah}; ifj;kstuk ?kksf'kr fd;k tk,A mRrj izns" k ,d fo" kky izns" k gS vkSj dnfpr~ izR;sd izns" k esa 02 jk'V^{ah}; ifj;kstuvksa dh xkbM ykbUI dks f"kfFky djrs gq, Åijh xaxk&;euk lesfdr {kerk iqujks)kj ;kstuk dks Hkh jk'V^{ah}; ifj;kstuk ds #i esa ?kksf'kr fd;k tkuk vko";d gSA

;g Hkh vuqjks/k gS fd lw[kkxzLr foa/; {ks= ,oa uDly izHkkfor tuin lksuHknz dh dugj flapkbZ ifj;kstuk dh "kh?kz Lohd`r tkjh dh tk, rFkk izns" k dh jk'V^{ah}; ifj;kstuvksa ,oa ,-vkbZ-ch-ih- iksf'kr izns" k dh vU; IHkh flapkbZ ifj;kstuvksa dk dsUnzka" k rRdky voeqDr fd;k tk,A

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Ckk<+ fu;a=.k ifj;kstuvksa dks Lohd`r djus dh izfdz;k esa yxHkx N% ekg ls ,d o'kZ dk le; yx tkrk gSA bl le;kof/k dks de fd;k tkuk Hkh furkUr vko";d gSA ck<+ ifj;kstuvksa dh iw.kZ /kujkf" k jkT; ljdkjksa dks ,d eq"r voeqDr dh tkuh pkfg,A

eq>s fo"okl gS fd izns" k ljdkj }kjk jkT; dh turk fo"ks'kdj fdlkuksa ds fgr esa Hkkjr ljdkj ls tks vuqjks/k fd;s x;s gSa] muds IEcU/k esa dsUnz ljdkj ldkjkRed #[k viukdj ;Fkk"kh?kz fu.kZ; ysxhA

Full Text of Speech of Shri P. Sudarshan Reddy, Minister for Major and Medium irrigation, Andhra Pradesh

Respected Hon'ble Prime Minister, Union Minister of Ministry of Water Resources, Other Union Ministers and Ministers of State of GOI, Hon'ble Chief Ministers of States, Lieutenant Governors/ Administrators of UTs, Ministers and Senior Officials,

It is indeed a great honour for me to attend the Council meeting on behalf of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of AP and place the views of Andhra Pradesh before the Council.

2. Aspects of the Policy which Government of Andhra Pradesh Supports

- At the outset, I would like to congratulate the Ministry of Water Resources for adopting an extensive “**Consultation Process**” while preparing the Draft Policy. It has gone a long way in making the Policy inclusive and in building ownership among the various stakeholders.
- The Intentions of the policy are **highly laudable** and are well articulated.
- We are proud to have been part of this consultation process by conducting the “**South India Consultation Workshop on the National Water Policy with the representatives of PRIs**” at Walamtari, Hyderabad.
- AP supports the idea of treating water as a “**Community Good**” to be used for larger community benefit.
- We welcome the proposal to bring in improvement in the “**Water use Efficiency**” at all levels. AP State Water Policy 2009 also supports this.
- We welcome the proposal for “**Scientific approach to assessment, planning, managing and utilization of water resources**” supported by empowered institutions, skilled manpower and use of modern technologies including Information systems.
- We support the concern expressed in the Policy for “**Ecological Flows**”.
- We are happy to find the proposal containing a mechanism for setting up “**Fund for Operation and Maintenance**” of Projects on a sustainable basis.
- AP is of the opinion that an “incentive mechanism” may please be set up to intensify Participatory Irrigation Management. Such a mechanism will greatly revitalize PIM efforts, especially in states like AP which pioneered the concept in the first place.

- We also welcome the proposal for according **all clearances** including Environmental and Investment clearances to Water Sector Projects in a **time bound manner**.
- AP also welcomes the proposal to set up a **Permanent Tribunal** to resolve water related disputes expeditiously. I would like to reiterate that AP has been one of the first states to suggest such a mechanism.

3. **Aspects of the Policy on which Government of Andhra Pradesh has concerns:**

- The proposal for a 'Framework Law' need to be debated at an **'appropriate forum'** in greater detail before including it in the policy.
- Further, clarity would be required on what powers need to be devolved to **"lower tiers of government"** as proposed in the framework law.
- The Framework Law should aim to strengthen the **"rights of the lower riparian states"** in a more scientific way rather than serving any other purpose.
- The New Policy does away with the **"priority allocation"** of water resources among sectors and clubs them under "pre-emptive needs". We insist that the **"Inter-Sectoral Priority"** as enunciated in the 2002 Policy be retained.
- We feel that improved "Water Use Efficiency" could be achieved by Participatory Approaches and **"Empowerment of the Water User Associations"** than by declaring water as Economic Good. AP is a good example for this. WUE improved by 5-10% in the last 4 years through a "Participatory Action Plan" exercise. The proposed National Irrigation Management Fund would provide a great incentive for re-vitalizing the functioning of the WUAs.
- While we welcome the proposal for working out environmental flows, we feel that it needs to be **"scientifically probed"** further for its practicability. It is a fact that in most River Basins there may not be any water to be allocated for "Environmental Flows" after meeting the demands of other sectors. Ways to provide for Environmental Flows have to be explored.
- We believe that **"Healthy Rivers/ Basins and Catchments"** are essential for sustainable water management. However, the entire approach needs to be further debated for clarity on the role of the States and that of the Centre.
- According all clearances to water projects in a time bound manner needs to be further **"clarified by specifying the mechanism"** which would bring together half a dozen Ministeries and other Institutions involved.

4. **General Observations:**

- The Planning Commission has initiated “**Results Framework**” approach to fund allocations to Ministries from 2011-12. Ministry of Water Resources is also one of the Ministries following this approach.
- We are of the opinion that while the objectives of the proposed National Water Policy are highly laudable, the same has to be backed up with **a) Adequate Financial Resources, b) Enforcement Mechanism, c) Technical Support and d) Decentralized Decision Making** so that the objectives could be attempted to be achieved following the Results Framework approach.
- We welcome the proposal to strengthen the Data base and Information Management, Research and Training components in water management. Government of AP will be very glad to extend all support to set up the proposed **Centre for Research in Water Policy at Walamtari**, Hyderabad with the support of the Ministry of Water Resources.
- We request the Hon’ble Prime Minister and the members of the National Water Resources Council to kindly consider our concerns in the wider perspective of effective implementation of the National Water Policy.

I sincerely thank the Hon’ble PM and the Ministry of Water Resources and the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh for giving me this opportunity to express the views of the Government of AP on the National Water policy.

Full Text of Speech of Shri Rajiv Banerjee, Minister-in-charge, Department of Irrigation and Waterways, West Bengal

Hon'ble Prime Minister Dr.Manmohan Singh, Hon'ble Union Minister of Water Resources, Shri Harish Rawatji, respected Chief Ministers & Water Resource Ministers of different States and Union Territories and other distinguished guests, I express my sincere thanks on behalf of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of West Bengal for discussion and deliberation to consider the Draft National Water Policy, 2012 in such a big forum.

It is known to all of us present here that subject to provision of Entry 56 of List-I of the Constitution, water is basically a state subject. Nevertheless, the importance of formulation of a National Water Policy to highlight major areas of concern across the country and to create a broad framework of directive principles for conservation, development and management of water resources by the States with due regard to contentious interstate issues, cannot be gainsaid.

The Draft National Water Policy (NWP) encompassing various pertinent issues has undoubtedly paved the way for creation of a system of laws and institutions, and for a plan of action with a unified national perspective and the exercise is commendable considering the wide-spectrum of regional diversities and specific problems and needs of the State.

The State of West Bengal, due to its unique geographical feature and position, perpetually suffers from floods and erosion during monsoon while craving for surface water flow during lean season. I, while endorsing the policy in general except a few clauses, would like to place a few issues, although mostly state-specific but often having national implications, as discussed below for consideration of this august gathering and incorporation in the NWP. I may mention here that the State Government is in process of finalizing the State Water Policy (SWP), based on specific needs and socio-economic as well as geo-political features of the state.

1. The Draft NWP (2012), as recommended by National Water Board in its 14th meeting held on 7th June, 2012 has highlighted major areas of concerns. However, the issue of non-point source pollution (mostly arising from agro-chemicals) has not been touched upon. This is a matter of growing importance and this issue will be deliberated later on.
2. Inter-basin transfers have been advocated in the chapter of "Enhancing Water Availability" but it is a sensitive and contentious issue. One school of thought preaches that there is really no water surplus basin from ecological angle. The need of adequate consultation with the states may be incorporated in the policy to properly assess the impact of such transfers. Enhancing water availability should be correlated with reuse and recycling of wastewater as we have done in our proposed

SWP. We have also contemplated to restrict leakage in water supply system within 10% compared to the present level of 30-50%. It is suggested that the NWP may include similar such target.

3. Demand management and water use efficiency have been discussed in the NWP. A few additional issues like coordinating surface water (both canal flow and pond storage) and groundwater sources to ensure equitable distribution between head and tail end farmers, devolution of irrigation rights and responsibilities in terms of provisions of the Constitution, following subsidiarity principle, which requires taking of decisions at the lowest appropriate level, have been incorporated in the proposed SWP. These may as well be considered in the NWP.
4. Government of West Bengal avows to provide water for drinking purpose, food security and supporting livelihood of common farmers in an equitable manner with least burden on common people, inspite of all odds and limited resources. Accordingly, it has been documented in the Draft SWP that water for sustaining life and ecosystem to be used for the abovementioned purposes should not merely be viewed as an economic good. It appears that the responsibility and commitment of the State to the Citizenry have somewhat been diluted in the very first sentence of Chapter 7 of draft NWP which reads *“For the pre-emptive and high priority uses of water for sustaining life and ecosystem for ensuring food security and livelihood for the poor, the principle of differential pricing may have to be retained”*. Does it mean that lower middle and middle class common people just above poverty line should be deprived of the benefit of differential pricing? This sentence needs to be rephrased. The state government is aware of the capital as well as the O&M cost of projects and intends to explore other commercial uses which could effectively be charged to make up loss of revenue incurred in providing social and essential services. Bottled drinking water has already been identified as one such area in the Draft SWP.
5. In view of the wide gap between collection and disbursement of central tax in any particular state including West Bengal and considering that central share of taxes is greater than the combined share of all states, the Union Government cannot avoid the responsibility of providing required financial assistance as per demand of the state governments for implementation of new projects as well as renovation and modernization of completed projects. Role and importance of central assistance should be specifically mentioned in the chapter of “Project Planning and Implementation”. It is important to mention that the present elaborate process of sanction and release of central fund adopted for scrutiny and appraisal often mar the progress and sometimes frustrate the ultimate objective of ensuring food security through expeditious execution of projects. Unless levels of appraising organizations could be reduced and procedures are made simplified and time bound with greater autonomy in respect of financial as well as technical power to the states, time and cost overrun cannot possibly be avoided.

6. River and sea erosion should be declared as a national problem as these are mostly observed in the lowermost reaches of inter-state and often international rivers like Ganga, Teesta etc rendering millions of people homeless. Loss of landmass of the country has international implications too. Role of the Union Government needs to be defined in tackling the problems of floods and erosion in the chapter of "Management of Flood & Drought". The Union Government should also play a major role in mediating and coordinating release of excess flood water from reservoirs of upper riparian states causing floods in lower riparian states. Formulation of an Action Plan by the upper riparian states to mitigate the damage due to flood in the lower riparian states by increasing /restoring flood cushion in such reservoirs should be made mandatory and the Union Government needs to provide necessary technical and financial assistance to the state for implementation of the Action Plan. This issue should be highlighted in the NWP.
7. Having talked about flood devastation during monsoon, let us now discuss the miseries of the State of West Bengal during lean season. The event of indiscriminate abstraction of Ganga water by the upper riparian states for irrigation and other purpose during the lean season in one hand and the international commitment of obligatory release in the downstream has left the state of West Bengal in a very precarious position and the entire range of socio economic activities along Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system, the lifetime of South Bengal, is at stake. Problem of siltation in the outfall of this river system affecting Kolkata and Haldia Ports is increasing day by day. Based on this experience we have underscored the need of limiting indiscriminate abstraction of water by upper riparian states from trans-boundary rivers through constitutional safeguards in the Draft SWP. Similar provisions should be incorporated in the NWP also in the chapter of "Trans-boundary Rivers". It needs to be added that while keeping paramount the national interests in negotiations about sharing and management of water of international rivers, interest of the affected state can no way be sacrificed and this should be clarified in the NWP. Groundwater movement occurs along international borders through the aquifer system. So, provision of 'Transboundary Aquifer Management Plan' (TAMP) along international border for sustainable groundwater development may be made in the NWP.
8. Let me now take up the issues relating to reduction of water pollution from point sources (mostly industrial and municipal), non point sources (mostly arising from agro-chemicals), which have been deliberated in our draft SWP at great length. Salient features are highlighted below, to share the thought process with all concerned. Some of these may be included in the NWP, if found suitable;
 - i) "Polluters-pay" principles are to be strictly applied for point source pollution in accordance with the existing Acts and regulations".
 - ii) Large residential complexes are to compulsorily treat wastewater within their campus and reuse for non drinking purposes.

- iii) Low cost and sustainable arsenic and fluoride removal technology is to be evolved on war footing basis.
 - iv) Suitable and proactive administrative monitoring mechanism is to be urgently developed to restrict non point source pollution from the overuse of agro-chemicals, like pesticides and reactive nitrates, which is decimating bio-diversity and aquatic life in groundwater, water bodies as well as rivers and equally damaging human health in increasingly lethal manner.
9. The concept of 'Integrated River Basin Management Plan' (IRBMP) has been adopted in our draft SWP, which I would like to share with the Hon'ble Guests. A participatory and ecosystem based approach taken in IRBMP will coordinate conservation, management and development of water, land and related resources within a basin in order to maximize the economic and social benefits without compromising the sustainability of vital ecosystems. The major areas of attention will include;
- i) Conservation of catchment areas;
 - ii) Protecting wetlands and waterbodies;
 - iii) Reducing wastage in irrigation and other uses;
 - iv) Implementation of recommendation of the State Agriculture Commission.

With these words I would like to conclude my speech. I would also like to express my sincere thanks to the organizing officers of the Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India for the excellent arrangement.

Full Text of Speech of Shri P.J. Joseph, Minister for Water Resources, Kerala

Hon'ble Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singhji, Hon'ble Union Minister, Harish Rawatji, Hon'ble Central Ministers, Hon'ble Chief Ministers, Hon'ble Ministers and friends....

I would like to outline the views of the State of Kerala on the National Water Policy. Water is a precious and scarce resource that goes beyond impacting socio-economic development to sustaining life itself. This emphasizes the need to utilize it optimally, efficiently and equitably. While no state can have any reservation against a unified National Water Policy, it is important to ensure that a national perspective not detrimental to the interests of States is evolved. The specific conditions prevailing in each state in terms of availability and needs must be fully taken into account while formulating the water policy.

The policy should provide for mechanisms for equitable distribution of water. The primary consideration that should weigh with us is the utilization of water for meeting the water needs of the people and for sustainable development for ensuring ecological balance. Water for the purpose of drinking, agriculture and power generation must have precedence over other uses. A broad over-arching national legal framework for legislation on water governance is likely to infringe upon the rights of the states to legislate on the vital subject of water.

Any move that encroaches on the state's rights to decide on water-related issues is not acceptable to the State of Kerala as there are likely to be many localized issues that cannot be visualized under a broad and uniform national framework. The State of Kerala is against commercialization of water. Water is a basic entitlement to which all people, irrespective on their economic status, should have free access.

Rather than having a pre-determined system to ensure river flows to cater to the perceived ecological needs of rivers, how best the ecological needs of rivers can be met may be left to the respective states. Similarly having uniform criteria, without taking into account the uniqueness of new water resource projects, to determine coping strategies to be incorporated into planning and management of water resources structures for possible climatic changes makes little sense. States are best equipped to address this issue. An institutional arrangement for promotion, regulation and evolving mechanism for efficient use of water at basin / sub basin level, is again best done at the State rather than at the national level.

There cannot be two opinions on the uses of water to sustain life and ecosystem and to ensure food security and support livelihood for the poor and therefore on the need for retention of differential pricing. Further, we are of the opinion that the uses of water and differential pricing are matters that can be decided by the State Water Regulatory Authorities. The Water Users Association (WUA) cannot be vested with the

power to fix rates to ensure economically weaker sections are not left out of accessing water. While keeping water bodies free from pollution is the need of the hour, the system of periodic inspection by a third party may lead to misuse of powers in the absence of clear definition of the third party. Since Dam safety services remain the exclusive preserve of the states, there seems to be no need for Central intervention in the matter.

Extraction of water for industrial use should be regulated for safeguarding the agrarian economy during drought season, among other things. All the riparian states should be able to work out solutions to disputes among themselves in a spirit of true nationalism. Institution of a forum at the national level in itself offers no remedy to differences among the riparian states. As a matter of fact, there are ample provisions in Articles 262 of the Constitution of India and the Inter state Water Dispute Act, 1956 for resolving the disputes on water between states.

I would like to use this occasion to renew the commitment of the State of Kerala to work in unison with all the other states on water related matters. I would reiterate the utmost importance of safety of dams and the fairness of invoking the precautionary principle to ensure the safety of people living in the down streams. I hope that we would collectively be able to find lasting solutions to water related problems in a spirit of give-and-take keeping in mind the welfare of the people of all states and the importance of the preservation of the life-support systems. The management of water resources should be done on a scientific basis taking into account the interests of all states concerned. We must find ingenious ways of managing water without having to infringe on the constitutionally guaranteed rights of the states. The proposed National Water Policy should be finalized after accommodating the various concerns and viewpoints of all the states.

I take this opportunity to thank the Hon'ble Prime Minister and the Hon'ble Minister for Water Resources for convening this meeting and trust the deliberations in this forum will direct us towards a consensus solution to the challenges faced by the water sector today.

Full Text of Speech of Shri Shivraj Singh Chauhan, Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh

Honourable Prime Minister, Hon'ble Union Minister for Water Resources, Hon'ble Chief Ministers of the State, Hon'ble Ministers from States, Officers of the Union Government, States & Union Territories, Namaskar.

2. It is a historic moment for the water resource sector. We have gathered here to deliberate on the draft national water policy (NWP) -2012. Based on NWP - 2002, Madhya Pradesh had adopted the State Water Policy in 2003. Since then the State has moved ahead in development, management and conservation of our water resources, keeping in mind the local, regional, state and national perspective. We have brought 8.25 lakhs hectare under irrigation in spite of issues relating to litigation by certain organizations and clearance issues by the union Environment Ministry. Under our stated policy of bridging the gap between the potential created and utilized, we increased the irrigated area by 90% during 2011-2012 Rabi Season, to 17 lakh ha from the earlier high of 9 lakh ha. We are not complacent with this achievement, and this year we have set a target of 21 lakh ha irrigation for ourselves in the current rabi season. We are moving ahead to address the need of Malwa region by introducing lift irrigation from river Narmada.

3. Madhya Pradesh's success is because of our sound policy and commitment to public welfare. In 2010, we supplemented our policy with a 'development resolution' in the State Assembly. I am happy to share with you that the resolution included three action points relating to the water sector. These are:-

- a. Bringing 7.5 lakh ha new area under irrigation by March 2014.
- b. Bridging the gap between the potential created and utilized with a focus on Command Area Development.
- c. Evolving and adopting scientific principles and practices for harnessing water resources for sustainable development.

4. The draft National Water Policy 2012 does not entirely live up to our expectations. The objective of a policy cannot be to take cognizance of the existing situation and in the garb of unified national perspective propose a framework for creation of a system of Laws. A policy is a vision document for a sector not the least a tool to usurp the constitutionally mandated rights of the states. The proposed national legal framework of general principles on water would be violative of the federal principles enshrined in the Constitution. Item 17 of list II of 7th schedule of the Constitution should not be tinkered with. The water resource sector needs a national policy which helps the states to develop and better manage their water resources rather than of legislative prescription, which would end up hindering the initiatives of the State Governments.

5. The National Water Policies of 1987, 2002 and our State policy of 2003 were more explicit than the draft NWP 2012 in defining the water allocation priorities with flexibility for modifications in a regional context. The National Policy proposes to treat water as an "economic good" after meeting the pre-emptive needs of drinking water, sanitation, animals, sustenance agriculture and minimum ecosystem needs. We are a welfare state with a growing population and a developing economy. Water is a public good and treating it as an economic good in the name of efficient use is fraught with danger. The NWP could have articulated water as a fundamental human right and should aim to protect the right to water for basic needs including that for basic livelihood strategies. The policy proposes to somewhat limit the role of government in public services whereas in other parts of the world water services are being brought back in to the public realm due to negative experiences with private sector.

6. The policy in several places refers to the demand side management of water without adequately addressing the supply side management. A fast moving economy with a growing population with limited utilizable water resource should pay greater attention to converting its water resources to a usable resource. The policy fails to take cognizance in adequate manner of the hurdles in development of water resources. The Environment and Forest clearance procedures, which are a major impediment, have not been addressed adequately. The policy does talk of time bound clearances but falls short of laying the foundation for an institutional mechanism to do so.

7. The policy has in many places talked of factoring in the effects of climate changes in the development and management of water resources. The overemphasis on this phenomenon, impacts of which are still to be fully understood, could further restrict water resources development. Similarly, the ecological needs of a river regime forming a pre-emptive need would hinder the development of the sector especially in the rain-fed regions. Taking into consideration this aspect the NWP of 2002 had factored this requirement for perennial rivers only, which was more scientific.

8. For the irrigation benefits to flow immediately the policy discusses pari-passu development of command areas. There is however, very little in the policy to address the gap of potential created and utilized. The policy should be amended to include command area development of old irrigation systems and also repair, rehabilitation and modernization of old tanks. This has to be coupled with improvement in water and irrigation management practices in a more focused way.

9. The NWP 2012 lays emphasis on centralized monitoring, regulation and control. Instead it should institutionalize ways to strengthen state water resource departments by complementary interventions, capacity building etc. so that they themselves can undertake these activities.

10. The NWP 2012 fails to address sustainable ground water management by integration of energy, agriculture and water management. It should stress on efficiency, participatory monitoring of ground water, crop water budgeting, conjunctive use and extension services so as to limit over exploitation of groundwater resources.

11. The failure of the Central Government to align its programmes with the water policy objectives of States, and the procedural hurdles and delays in clearances and funding of irrigation and other water resource related projects have contributed to the problems being currently faced in the water sector. Now, with the draft national policy proposing to infringe on the state legislative power we may end up with a much worse situation. The draft should be reworked in wider consultation with the States, keeping in mind the local, regional and state perspectives and the complexities involved in the sector so as to address the growing needs of a growing economy.

Full Text of Speech of Shri Hemaram Choudhary, Minister for Water Resources, Rajasthan

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- 1- eSa jk'V^{ah}; ty uhfr izk#i dks vuqeksnu iznku djus gsrq vkeaf=r bl jk'V^{ah}; IEesyu esa loZ izFke ekuuh; iz/kkuea=h th] vknj.kh; Jh eueksgu flag th dk vkHkkj O;Dr djrk gwW fd ty uhfr tSls egRoiv.kZ fo'k; ij xgu fopkj foe"KZ gsrq bl IEesyu dk vk;kstu mudh v/;{krk esa j[kk x;k gS rkfd ty tSls xaHkhj jk'V^{ah}; eqnn~s ij LHkh vius fopkj O;Dr dj lds vkSj ,d vke lgefr cu ldsA
- 2- HkkSxksfyd n`fV ls jktLFkku izns"K jk'V^a dk lcls cM+k jkT; gSA bldk {ks=Qy ns"K ds dqy {ks=Qy dk 10-4 izfr"kr rFkk tu la[;k ns"K dh dqy tula[;k dh 5-5 izfr"kr gSA bl izns"K esa lrgH ty dh miyC/krk ek= 1-16 izfr"kr ,oa nksgu ;ksX; Hkwty ek= 1-72 izfr"kr gh miyC/k gSA jktLFkku esa ty dh miyC/krk o'kkZ ij fuHkZj djrh gSA o'kkZ dh n`fV ls] izns"K jk'V^a dk U;wure o'kkZ okyk {ks= gS rFkk okf'kZd vkSlr o'kkZ ek= 531 feyhevJ gSA ;g izns"K fiNys 50 o'kksZ esa ls 43 o'kksZ esa izns"K ds fdLh u fdLh Hkkx esa lw[kk xzLr jgk gSA jktLFkku izns"K esa o'kkZ dgha T;knk rks dgha de o vfuf"pr gksus ls ty dh miyC/krk esa fujUrj deh vkrh tk jgh gSA Hkw&ty dk nksgu tks o'kZ 1985 esa 35 izfr"kr Fkk vc c<dj orZeku esa 138 izfr"kr ls Hkh vf/kd gks x;k gSaA
- 3 gekjs izns"K esa miyC/k ty esa] ns"K dk 40 izfr"kr ¶jyksjkbM o 82 izfr"kr yo.krk ls izHkkfor okyk ty gS ftlds dkj.k {ks=h; tu la[;k dk LokLF; izHkkfor gksuk LokHkkfod gSA izns"K esa i;kZIr lrgH ty L=ksrksa rFkk i;kZIr o'kkZ ds vHkko esa is;ty gsrq Hkwty ij vf/kd fuHkZjrk gS] rFkk orZeku esa bl izns"K ds 249 [k.Mksa esa ls ek= 20 [k.M gh Hkwty miyC/krk dh n`fV ls lqjf{kr jg x;s gSa vkSj Hkwty miyC/krk fujUrj ?kVrh tk jgh gSA bl izfrdwy fLFkr ds cktwn izns"K dh ljdkj vke tu dks LoPN is;ty miyC/k djkus ds fy;s n`< ladfYir gS vkSj mUgh iz;klksa ds vk/kkj ij LoPN is;ty miyC/k dj jgh gSA jkT; ds cgqr cM+s Hkkx esa is;ty gsrq Hkw&ty miyC/k ugh gSA ty ladV dh fLFkr esa vusdksa kj ihus dk ikuh VSadj ,oa Vs^au ds ek;/e ls igWqpk;k tkrk jgk gSA
- 4 jkT; esa vc rd fofHkUu ;kstuvksa ds ek;/e ls 118 c`gn ,oa e;/e rFkk yxHkx 9440 y?kq flapkbZ ifj;kstuk,aW fufeZr dh tk pqdh gS ftuesa vc rd 37-24 yk[k gSDVs;j {ks= esa flapkbZ dh O;oLFkk dh tk ldh gSA
- 5 jkT; esa mi;ksxh lrgH ty dh miyC/krk 16 fcfy;u D;wfcd ehVj gS ftlds fy;s 12-53 fcfy;u D;wfcd ehVj {kerk ds ckW/k cuk;s x;s gS] ijUrj fofHkUu dkj.kksa ls bu

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6- jktLFkku jkT; esa lhfer ty dh miyC/krk o lhfer foRrh; lalk/kuksa ds ckotwn Hkh ty {ks= esa dbZ uhrxr lq/kkjRed dk;Z fd;s gS] ftuesa ls dqN eq[; fuEukuqlkj gS%&

6-1 jktLFkku izns"k us ty egRo dks tkurs gq, jkT; tyuhfr rS;kj dh gS vkSj ftls Qojh] 2010 esa ykxw dj fn;k x;k gSA

6-2 blds ty fu;ked fcy fo/kku IHkk esa izLrqr fd;k tk pqdk gSA

6-3jkT; ljdkj ds }kjk ty dh ,d ,d cwan dks cpkus rFkk ty dh flapkbZ n{krk c<+kus ds fy, iwjh

xEHkhjrk ds lkFk dk;Zdzeksa dks ykxw fd;k tk jgk gSA izns"k esa nSfud thou esa ikuh ds vokafNr nq#i;ksx dks jksdus] d`f`k {ks= esa flpkbZ n{krk dks c<+kus ds mik;ksa ij vey djuk] de ikuh ls gksus okyh nyguh o fryguh Qlyksa dks mxkus] vkfn dk;ksZ ds fy;s O;kid izpkj dk dk;Z fd;k tk jgk gSA

6-4 jkT; ljdkj ds }kjk nkch; flapkbZ i}fr ls gksus okys ikuh dh cpr dks /;ku esa j[k dj vf/kd {ks= esa flapkbZ dks izksRlkfgr djus dh n`f`V ls QOokjk dz; djus o m]k]kfudh Qlyksa esa cwan&cwan flapkbZ i}fr viukus ds fy, cwan&cwan flapkbZ ISV dzz; djus ij Hkh vuqнку miyC/k djok;k tk jgk gSA

6-5 izns"k esa bfUnjk xakWa/kh ugj ifj;kstuk esa orZeku esa 27000 gsDVj Hkwfe ds fy;s QOokjk flapkbZ vfuok;Z dj nh xbZ gSaA lkFk gh 3]20]000 gsDVj Hkwfe esa QOokjk flapkbZ i/nfr viukus gsrq dsUnzh; ty vk;ksx ls ;kstuk dh Lohd`r izklr gks pqdh gSaA

6-6 foxr nks n"kdksa esa c<rh vkcknh] Hkw&ty nksgu ds lk/kuksa dh cgqyrk] Hkw ty vk/kkfjr d`f`k {ks=ksa esa o`f/n] QSyrs "kgjhdj.k ls Hkwty miyC/krk ij foijhr vj iMk gSA ,slh voLFkk esa Hkwty lalk/ku dk csgrj mi;ksx] izcU/ku o laj{k.k djuk vkt dh vko";drk gh ugha cfYd Hkfo'; esa Hkw&ty miyC/krk cuk;s j[kus] Hkw&ty lao/nZu djuk vfuok;Z gksrk tk jgk gSaA blds lao/nZu ds fy, vko";d mik;ksa ls d`f`e Hkw&ty] iquHkZj.k ,oa Hkw&ty lacaf/kr tu tkxj.k ls foyqlr gksrs Hkw&ty Hk.Mkjksa esa o`f/n dh tk ldrh gSA blh mnn`s"; ls unh ukyksa esa cgrrs o`kkZ ty dks ,uhdV] cka/k }kjk laxzfr djuk] vuqi;ksxh csdkj iM+h lajpukvksa dk th.kksZ/nkj dj ty laxzg.k gsrq mi;ksxh cukuk] xkao&xkao esa l?ku o`{kkjksi.k dks c<kok nsuk ftlesa Hkwfe dh ueh ,oa ty /kkj.k {kerk esa o`f/n gksdj i;kZoj.k lajf{kr rFkk lqjf{kr jg lds] ds dk;Z djok;s x;s gSA

6-7 dek.M {ks= esa lrg ty ds dq"ky izcU/ku gsrq d`kdk ds flapkbZ izcU/ku esa lgHkkfrrk dks lqfuf"pr djrs gq, vkilh rkyesy ,oa lg;ksx ls flpkabZ iz.kkyh dh mfpr ns[kHkky ,oa ty forj.k esa lfdz; Hkkxhnkjh fuoZgu ds m/ns"; ls 1736 ty mi;ksDrk

laxBuksa dk xBu dj 659 ty miHkksDrk laxBuksa dks ugj izca/ku gLrkUrj.k dij ty dj olwyh ds vf/kdkj Hkh mUgs ns fn;s gSa rFkk ml jkf"k dk 50 izfr"kr fgLlk ty miHkksDrk laxBuksa dks ugjksa ds lapkyu ,oa j[k&j][kko ds fy, miyC/k dj;k tk jgk gSA

6-8 jkT; ljdkj ds }kjk ty lalk/kuks dk dq"kyre mi;ksx djus ds fy, xzke iapk;r Lrj ij Vhe dk xBu fd;k x;k ftlesa 6 foHkkxksa ty lalk/ku] tu LokLF; vfHk;kaf=dh] Hkwty] d`f`k] iapk;rh jkt ,oa okVj"ksM ds vf/kdkfj;ksa }kjk izf"kf{kr dj ,dhd`r ty lalk/ku izcU/k lyku rS;kj dj;k;s x;s gSA ;wjksfi;u la?k ds lkFk lgHkkfjrk dk;Zdze ds rgr 11 ftyksa dh 3182 xzke iapk;rks esa ,dhd`r ty lalk/ku izcU/k lyku rS;kj djus dk dk;Zdze izxfrj gSA buesa ls 1750 ;kstuk, cukbZ tk pqdh gSA buesa 1187 ;kstuk, ftyk Lrj ij vuqeksfnr gks pqdh gSA ljdkj }kjk izf"k{k.k ,oa tu&tkxj.k dk;Zdze ds rgr IHkh flapkbZ ifj;kstuvksaa esa ty ds forj.k ls iwoZ ty forj.k desVh dh ehfVasx dk vk;kstu fd;k tkrk gS ftlesa ty lalk/ku] d`f`k ,oa dek.M {ks= ds d`kdksa o LFkkuh; tu izfrfuf/k;ksa ds leUo; ls ikuh NksM+k tkrk gS rFkk d`kdksa dks ty ds leqfpr mi;ksx ds fy, de ikuh ls gksus okyh Qlyksa] QOokj ,oa fM^ai flapkbZ ds ckjs esa tkudkj nh tk jgh gSA

6-9- ljdkj }kjk lwpuk f"kk{k ,oa lapkj xfrfof/k;ksa dks viukus] okVj vkWfMfVax ,oa cSap ekfdZx dk;Zdze ds rgr flapkbZ ifj;kstuvksa dh n{krk o`f} ds fy, 13 ifj;kstuvksa esa dk;Zdze ykxw fd;k x;k;kA LdkMk i)fr dks bafnj xka/kh ugjh {ks=ksa esa ykxw fd;k x;k gSA xax ugj ,oa Hkk[kMk ugj iz.kkfy;ksa esa Hkh bl ;kstuk dks ykxw djus dh ;kstuk gS rkfd ugj iz.kkfy;ksa esa izokfgr gksus okys ikuh dh tkudkj foHkkx ds lwpukra= ij miyC/k jgsxh ,oa ty dk fu;a=.k d{k ls gh izcU/k fd;k tk ldsA

6-10 jkT; ljdkj ds }kjk okVj fjlskZ bUQkWjes"ku filVe Hkh ykxw dj fn;k x;k gS ftlds rgr foHkkx dh IHkh lwpukvksa] flapkbZ ifj;kstuvks] Hkjko {kerk} flafpr {ks=} lrg ,oa Hkwty] ekSle laca/kh lwpuk,a] d`f`k ,oa HkwxHkhZ; ty dh tkudkj dk lekos"k fd;k x;k gSA bu lwpukvksa dk ykHk "kklu dh dk;Ziz.kkyh dks laosnu"kh ,oa ikjn"khZ cukus esa ennxkj lkfr gksxkA

6-11 jkT; ljdkj }kjk jktho xka/kh ty fodkl ,oa laj{k.k fe"ku dh LFkkiuk dj blds vUrxZr miyC/k leLr lrg ty dk dq"ky ty izcU/k] tulgHkkfjrk lqfuf"pr djuk] ty lajpukvksa dk mfpr j[k&j][kko] "kgjh ,oa xzeh.k cfLr;ksa esa is;ty forj.k O;oLFkk] tykHkko ,oa ¶lyksjkbM vkfn ls izHkkfor {ks=ks ds fy;s fo"ks"k ;kstuk,] fxjrs Hkw ty Lrj dh jksdFkke, fxjrs Hkw&ty nksgu lEcU/kr dkuwuh ,oa iz"kklfud O;oLFkk, viukus] is;ty iznw'k.k dks jksduk] ijEijkxr ty L=ksrks dk ft.kksZ]kj vkfn dk;Z djok;s tk jgs gSA

6-12- ljdkj ds }kjk fjoj csflu lykfuax gsrq ty lalk/kuks ds leqfpr izcU/k ds fy, dk;Z ;kstuk rS;kj dh tk jgh gSA ftlesa fjoj csflu lykfuax ds v/;u ls ty dh miyC/krk] ,xzks DykbesVd tksu okbZt HkwxHkhZ; ty dh miyC/krk] ty iznw'k.k] ftysoj ty dh ekax

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6-13- ty {ks= ds fodkl ds fy, egkRek xka/kh jk'V^{ah}; jkstxkj xkjaVh ;kstuk ds rgr ty lajpukvksa ds dk;Z ;Fkk ykbZfuax dk;Z] o`{kkjksi.k] ,uhdV fuekZ.k] "kkldh; ifjIEifRr;ksa esa o'kkZ ty laj{k.k ds dk;ksZ dks izkFkfedrk ls dj;k;s tk jgs gSA

6-14- fo"o cSad ls iksf'kr jktLFkku ty {ks= iqu% lajpuk ifj;kstuk ds rgr jkT; dh fofHkUu flapkbZ iz.kkfy;ka tks j[k&j]kko ds vHkko esa th.kZ&{kh.kZ gks xbZ gS] ds iqu#)kj ls d`kd laxBu] lgHkkfyrk ds vuqlkj th.kksZ)kj] cka/k lqj{kk] d`f'k lgk;rk lsok] laLFkxr lq/kkj ,oa {kerk fodkl] ty lalk/ku ls tqM+s foHkkxksa esa lwpuk rdudh yxw djuk] foLFkfkirksa dk iquokZI ,oa iquZLFkku vkfn dk;Z IEikfnr dj;k;s tk jgs gSA

6-15- lknzns" k esa y?qk flaapkbZ lq/kkjhdj.k ifj;kstuk ds rgr tkiku vUrjZ'V^{ah}; dkjiksjs"ku ,tsUlh }kjk 612-29 djksM+ dh ykxr ls 20 ftyksa esa 332 y?qk flapkbZ ifj;kstukvksa dk th.kksZ)kj ,oa iquZ)kj fd;k tk jgk gSA

7- jk'V^{ah}; ty uhfr izk#i 2012 ds lEcU/k esa esjk vxzgz gS fd blesa ty vkoVau dh izkFkfedrvksa ds ckjs esa dksbZ mYys[k ugh gSA jktLFkku jkT; ty uhfr esa ty vkoaVu esa euq'; ds is;ty] lk"q /ku gsrq is;ty] vU; ?kjsyw mi;ksxkFkZ] d`f'k] ÅtkZ mRiknu] vkfn dks izkFkfedrk gSA bl izdkj dh izkFkfedrk,sa jk'V^{ah}; ty uhfr esa gksA ty uhfr esa ikuh dh deh] e#LFkyh; {ks=} fo'ke tyok;q rFkk HkwtY dh [kjkx qk.koRrk okys {ks=ksa dks fo"ks'k ntkZ nsdj izkFkfedrk nh tkuh pkfg,] rkfd izHkkfor izns" k Hkh jk'V^{ah}; fodkl dk;ksZ esa vU; jkT;ksa dh rjg viuh Hkkxhknkj fuHkk ldsA bldk lekos" k Hkh jk'V^{ah}; ty uhfr esa gksuk mfpr gksxkA

8 jktLFkku izns" k dh HkkSxksfyd ifjLFkfr;ka] fo"ky jsfxLFkku {ks=} fujUrj vkSlr ls Hkh de o'kkZ dk gksuk] tyok;q ifjorZu] vfro`fV vkSj vuko`fV ds lkFk vUrjZ'V^{ah}; lhek ls yxk gksus ls jktLFkku izns" k dks fo"ks'k ntkZ nsus ij dsUnz ljdkj fopkj dj fuEu eqnn~ks ij mfpr fu.kZ; ys %&

8-1 vUrjZth; ty le>kSrkas ds rgr feyus okys ty esa deh gksus ls jkT; dks dkQh leL;kvksa dk lkeuk djuk iM+rk gSA ty le>kSrkas ds vUrxZr ugjkas dk j[k&j]kko lEcU/kr jkT; djrs gS ,oa ,slh fLFkfr esa fofHkUu eqn~nkas ij vkilh lgefz cukus esa dfBukbZ vkrh gSA vUrjZTth; ty fooknkas ds lanHkZ esa jkT;ksa ds fgrkas dks lqjf{kr j[kus ds fy, ugjkas o ufn;ksa dks jk'V^{ah}; ugjas o ufn;aakW ?kksf'kr dj budk izcU/ku o j[kj]kko fd;k tkosA bl gsrq ;fn laoS/kkfud la"ks/ku dh Hkh vko";drk gks rks ml ij Hkh fopkj fd;k tkuk pkfg,A

8-2 fnlEcj] 2006 ls Rofjr flapkbZ ykHk dk;Zdze ds ekxZnf" kZdk ds vuqlkj xSj fo"ks'k Js.kh jkT;ksa tSlS jktLFkku esa 25 izfr"kr jkf" k vuqnu ds #i esa tkjh dh tk jgh gSA jkT; ds lw[kk lEHkkO; ,oa tutkfr ckgqY; {ks= esa fLFkr ifj;kstukvksa ds fy, 90 izfr"kr jkf" k vuqnu ds #i esa tkjh dh tk jgh gSA ueZnk ugj ifj;kstuk dks Rofjr

flapkbZ ykHk dk;Zdze esa lu~ 2008 ls 90 izfr"kr dsUnzh; lgk;rk izklr gks jgh Fkh] fdUrq o'kZ 2011&12 ls dksbZ lgk;rk jkf"k izklr ugh gqbZ gSA vc rd #0 522-00 djksM+ jkf"k cdk;k gSA ,-vkbZ-ch-ih- ;kstuk esa ekuuh; eq[;ea=h] jktLFkku us Hkkjr ljdkj ds ty lalk/ku ea=ky; ds ekuuh; ea=h egksn; dks "ks'k cdk;k vuqnu jkf"k "kh?kz tkjh djus gsrq fuosnu fd;k gSA vr% dsUnz ljdkj "kh?kz cdk;k jkf"k tkjh djsA

8-3 ty lalk/ku ea=ky;] Hkkjr ljdkj us tEew d"ehj] mRrj iwoZ jkT;ksa dks fo"ks'k oxZ esa j[kk gSA blfy, ;s jkT;] vU; jkT;ksa dh rgyuk esa dsUnzh; _k lgk;rk ds fy, vf/kd mnkj "krksZ gsrq ik= gSA lw[kk laHkkO;@tutkfr {ks= dks Rofjr flapkbZ ykHk dk;Zdze ds vUrxZr fo"ks'k Js.kh esa "kkfey dj 90 izfr"kr dsUnzh; lgk;rk ¼vuqnu½ miyC/k gks jgk gSA jktLFkku dk 66 izfr"kr Hkw&Hkx e#LFky gS rFkk e# fodkl dk;Zdze ¼Mh-Mh-ih-½ esa oxhZd`r gSA bu {ks=ksa esa cgqr de o'kkZ gksrh gSA Rofjr flapkbZ ykHk dk;Zdze ds vUrxZr Mh-Mh-ih- {ks= dks Hkh Mh-ih-,ih- {ks= ds leku gh 90 izfr"kr dsUnzh; lgk;rk okyh Js.kh esa "kkfey fd;k tkuk pkfg, ftlds dkj.k fuEukuqlkj gS %&

¼v½ Mh-Mh-ih- {ks= dh fLFkr cgqr n;uh; gS] jk'V^{ah}; lqj{kk dh n`fV ls Hkkjr ikd vUrxZ'V^{ah}; lhek ij fLFkr gksus ds dkj.k bl {ks= dk vkfFkZd fodkl lkekf;d n`fV ls egRoiv.kZ gSA

¼c½ bl {ks= esa o'kkZ Mh-ih-,ih- {ks= ls Hkh cgqr de gksrh gSA

¼l½ Mh-Mh-ih- {ks= esa ckj&ckj vdky iM+rk jgrk gSA foxr 50 o'kksZ esa 43 ckj ;g {ks= vdky izHkkfor jgkA vr% vuqjks/k gS fd Mh-Mh-ih- {ks= dks ,-vkbZ-ch-ih- ds vUrxZr 90 izfr"kr dsUnzh; lgk;rk ds fy, ik= ekuk tkosaA

8-4 ty L=ksrks ds fjis;j] fjuksos"ku ,oa jsLVksjs"ku dh Lohd`fr ds IEcU/k esa ty lalk/ku foHkkx }kjk bl ;kstuk ds vUrxZr Mh-ih-,ih-] Mh-Mh-ih-] ekMk ,oa tu tkfr ftyks esa fLFkr ty L=ksrks dh 69-72 djksM+ #0 dh 61 Mh-ih-vkj- Hkkjr ljdkj ds ty lalk/ku ea=ky; dks Lohd`fr gsrq Hksth xbZ FkhA bl dk;Zdze ds rgr Mh-ih-,ih-] Vh-,Mh- o uDly izHkkfor {ks=ksa esa fLFkr ty L=ksrks ds fy, Hkkjr ljdkj }kjk 90 izfr"kr vuqnu jkf"k o jkT; ljdkj }kjk 10 izfr"kr jkf"k ogu dh tk;sxhA Hkkjr ljdkj ds ;kstuk foHkkx }kjk vc rd ek= 11-63 djksM+ #i;ksa dh 16 Mh-ih-vkj- Lohd`r dh xbZ gSA jkT; ljdkj }kjk cdk;k ifj;kstukvksa dks 90 izfr"kr vuqnu jkf"k ds vUrxZr Lohd`fr gsrq Hkkjr ljdkj ls fuosnu fd;k x;k gSA bl IEcU/k esa ekuuh; eq[;ea=h] jktLFkku us Hkkjr ljdkj ls fuosnu fd;k gSA vr% vkxzg gS fd bu ;kstukvksa dks "kh?kz Lohd`r djok;k tk;sA bl ;kstuk ds vUrxZr Mh-Mh-ih-CykWDI dks Mh-ih-,ih- dh Hkkafr gh dsUnh; lgk;rk nh tkos rFkk ifj;kstukvksa dh Lohd`fr esa nsjh dks de djus ds fy, bu ifj;kstukvksa dh Lohd`fr dsUnzh; ty vk;ksx dh jkT; esa fLFkr bdkbZ }kjk gh vuqeksnu djus dh dk;Zokgh dh tkosaA

8-5 jktLFkku jkT; dh ck<+ cpko ifj;kstukvksa dh ck<+ izcU/ku dk;Zdze ds vUrxZr Lohd`fr ds IEcU/k esa jktLFkku ljdkj us vyoj ,oa Hkjriqj ftys dh ck<+ cpko ;kstuk jkf"k #0 dze"k% 11-25 djksM+ ,oa 73-10 djksM+ xaxk ck<+ cpko deh"ku iVuk dks ebZ] 2011 esa Hkkjr ljdkj ds ck<+ izcU/ku dk;Zdze ds vUrxZr

- Lohd`fr gsrq izsf`kr fd;k x;k Fkka bu ck<+ ifj;kstukvksa dh Lohd`fr gsrq jkT; ljdkj }kjk fujUrj iz;kl fd;s tk jgs gSA gekjk vuqjks/k gS fd bu Ldheksa dks "kh?kz Lohd`r djok;k tkosa
- 8-6 rsjgosa foRr vk;ksx esa ty izcU/ku esa lq/kkj dk;ksZ gsrq jktLFkku jkT; dks #0 225 djksM+ dk vuqnku bl "krZ ds lkFk fn;k x;k gS fd jkT; esa ty fofu;ked fcy] 31-03-2012 rd ykxw fd;k tkosa jktLFkku jkT; esa ty fofu;ked fcy fo/kkulHkk esa izLrqr fd;k tk pqdk gSA vr% jkT; ljdkj dk vuqjks/k gS fd pafd fcy fo/kkulHkk esa izLrqr fd;k tk pqdk gSA vr% Hkkjr ljdkj }kjk yxk;h xbZ bl "krZ esa NwV iznku dj og jkf" k jkT; dks tkjh dh tkosa
- 8-7 ;gka ij eSa vkidk /;ku jk'V^{ah}; ty fodkl vfHkdj.k ds }kjk fgeky;u ufn;ksa dh ;kstuk dh vksj Hkh vkd'`V djuk pkgwaxkA bl ;kstuk esa jktLFkku dks ty miyC/k djkus gsrq "kkjnk&;equk&jktLFkku fyad izLrkfor gSA jktLFkku dk vuqjks/k gS fd xaxk ds vkf/kD; ck<+ ty dk jktLFkku esa viorZu dk dk;Z oSKkfud@rduhdh v/;;u ,oa uohure vkdM+ksa ds vk/kkj ij gh okLrfod vfHk"ka'kk ds lkFk fd;k tk;s] tks fd Hkfo'; esa izns" k dh ;kstukvksa ds fdz;kUo;u esa mi;ksxh fl) gksA jktLFkku dks ty dh ftruh Hkh vfrfjDr ek=k feysxh] og jkT; ds fy, cgqr mi;ksxh gksxh vkSj ge mldk Hkjiwj mi;ksx dj ldsaxsA
- 8-8 jktLFkku dks 1981 vuqcU/k ds vUrxZr vf/kD; jkoh&O;kl ty esa ls vkoafVr 8-6 fefy;u ,dM+ fQV esa ls 0-6 fefy;u ,dM+ fQV ty dk mi;ksx iatkc dj jgk gS] ftls jkT; dks fnyokus gsrq jktLFkku viuh ekax dj jgk gSA ekeyk izslhMsfl;y jsQjsal }kjk loksZPp U;k;ky; esa Hkstk x;k gSA bldh lquokbZ Hkh "kh?kz gks] bls fy;s dsUnz ljdkj ls Bksl igy dh vko";drk gS] rkfd e# Hkwfe {ks= ds fdlkuxsa dks ikuh miyC/k gksA
- 8-9 jktLFkku dks fl)eq[k ugj {ks=ks gsrq Hkk[kMk eq]; ugj ds ek;/e ls 0-17 fefy;u ,dM+ fQV ikuh Hkkjr ljdkj }kjk 1982 esa fn;s x;s fu.kZ; vuqlkj vkoafVr gqvk Fkk] ijUrq gfj;k.kk dh vuko";d vkifRr gksus ds dkj.k Hkk[kM+k eq]; ugj ls ikuh jktLFkku dks izklr ugh gks jgk gSA ftls fl)eq[k ugj {ks= dk fodkl yfEcr gSA esjk Hkkjr ljdkj ls vkxzg gS fd bl {ks= ds fdlkuxsa dh n"kk dks /;ku esa j[krs gq, visf{kr dk;Zokgh djsaA
- 8-10 tkya/kj] udksnj ,oa QxokM+k dk lhojst ,oa vkS]ksfxd vif" k'V ds ek;/e ls lryqt unh ds ty dks iznwf`kr djrk gSA ;gh lryqt unh dk iznwf`kr ty gfjds cSjst ls bfUnjk xka/kh ugj] xaxugj ,oa Hkk[kM+k&fl)eq[k dks izklr gksrk gS ftls bl {ks= ds fuokfl;ksa ds LokLF; ij izfrdwy izHkko iM+ jgk gSA bl fo'k; esa Hkkjr ljdkj ds i;kZoj.k ,oa ou ea=ky; ls vis{kk dh tkrh gS fd os iatkc ljdkj dks rRdky izHkkoh dk;Zokgh djus gsrq funsZ" k nsosaA
- 8-11 Hkk[kM+k&C;kl izcU/ku e.My ds iz"kklu esa jkT; dks i;kZlr izfrfuf/kRo ugh fn;k tk jgk gSA jktLFkku dh cgqr cM+h fgLlsnkjh jkoh&C;kl unh ds ty esa gSA vr% esjk ;g fuosnu gS fd cksMZ esa lnL;ksa dh fu;qfDr jksVs"ku ij dh tk;s ;k ,d vfrfjDr lnL; dk izko/kku fd;k tk;sA

- 8-12 blh izdkj jkT; esa pq#] >qu>quaw ftyksa esa is;ty dh leL;k ds fujkdj.k ds fy;s rhtsokyk gSMoDIZ Is ;equk ty esa jkT; ds fgLIs esa ls vij ;equk fjoj cksMZ }kjk ekulwu vof/k esa 1917 D;wlsd ty vkoafVr fd;k x;k gSA bls fy;s ,d ;kstuk Hkh rS;kj dh xbZ gSA gfj;k.kk }kjk lgefr ugh nsus ds dkj.k dk;Z izkjEHk ugh gks ldk gSA bl gsrq Hkkjr ljdkj ls vko";d dk;Zokgh visf{kr gSA
- 8-13 ;gka eSa ;g Hkh vuqjks/k djuk pkgwaxk fd ;equk unh ij izLrkfor ckW/k jsuwdk esa folqr rFkk fd"kkÅ o y[kokj O;klh esa ikuh ,oa folqr esa jktLFkku dk fgLk 1994 esa ;equk ty ds cVokjs ds fy, gq, le>kSrs esa gq, ikuh ds cVokjs ds vuqikr esa gksuk pkfg,A
- 8-14 Hkkjr ljdkj ls vuqjks/k gS fd jkT;ksa esa vUrjZTth; ty fookn IEcfU/kr dbZ eqn~ns yfEcr gS] ftudks fuiVkus gsrq dsUnzh; ljdkj leqfpr dne mBkos rFkk izLrkfor gS fd bl dk;Z gsrq ekuuh; loksZPp U;k;ky; esa ,d vyx ls cSap dk xBu fd;k tkos] ftlls dh fookfnr izdj.kksa dk "kh?kz fuLrkj.k fd;k tk ldsA
- 8-15 jktLFkku jkT; dks dsUnzh; lgk;rk gsrq Lis"ky Js.kh ds jkT;ksa esa lfEefyr fd;k tkos] D;ksafd jkT; ds ty dh miyC/krk U;wure gSA
- 8-16 jkT; esa vc rd lrg L=ksr ij vk/kkfjr 84 o`g~n tyiznk; ;kstuk, ftudh Lohd`fr ykxr djhc 20334 djksM+ #0 gS] ds fy, djhc 8000 djksM+ #0 dh vfrfjDr vko";drk gSA jkT; esa [kjk xq.koRrk ls izHkkfor 26749 gschVs"kuI dks ykHkkfUor djus ds fy, xzkeh.k {ks=ksa ds fy, 37000 djksM+ #0 ,oa "kgjh {ks=ksa esa is;ty bUQzkLV^aDpj ds lqn`<hdj.k ds dk;Z bR;kfn ds y, yxHkx 13440 djksM+ #0 dh vko";drk gksxhA bl rjg jktLFkku jkT; esa is;ty lq/kkj@miyC/k djkus ds fy, yxHkx 51000 djksM+ #0 dh vko";drk gksxhA jkT; ljdkj ds ikl orZeku esa miyC/k IHkh L=ksarks ls] yxHkx 26]000 djksM+ #0 gh 2016&17 rd miyC/k gSA ftlesa Hkkjr ljdkj }kjk ns; jkf"k Hkh "kkfey gSA bl rjg yxHkx 25]000 djksM+ #0 dh jkf"k dh deh gksxhA izns"k dh fo'ke ifjfLFkfr;ksa dks ns[krs gq, iwoZ esa twu] 2009 esa ekuuh; iz/kkuea=h] Hkkjr ljdkj dks ,d Kkiu Hkstdj jktLFkku jkT; dks fo"ks'k ntkZ fnyokrs gq, 3]045 djksM+ #0 izfr o'kZ vxys 8 o'kksZ rd xzkeh.k o "kgjh {ks=ksa dh is;ty ds LFkk;h lek/kku gsrq fu;fer okf'kZd vkoaVu ds vfrfjDr jkf"k fnyokus dk vuqjks/k fd;k x;k FkkA pafd bl IEcU/k esa vuqdwy fu.kZ; ugh fy;k tk ldk vr% jkT; dks fo"ks'k iSdst ds rgr is;ty gsrq izfr o'kZ #0 3]045 djksM+ jkf"k vfrfjDr lgk;rk miyC/k djkus dk vuqxzg djrk gwWA

var esa eSa ekuuh; iz/kkuea=h egksn;] IEekuh; ty lalk/ku ea=h] Hkkjr ljdkj dk vkHkkj O;Dr djuk pkgwWaxk ftUgksaus eq>s jkT; dh leL;kvksa dks j[kus dk volj iznku fd;k gSA vk"kk djrk gwW fd jktLFkku jkT; dh leL;kvksa ij ,oa esjs }kjk mBk;s x;s fopkj.kh; eqn~nksa ij dsUnz ljdkj fopkj dj "kh?kz gh vko";d dne mBkdj jkgr iznku djsaxhA

Full Text of Speech of Shri Vijay Kumar Chaudhary, Minister, Water Resources Department, Bihar

Respected Prime Minister Sir and Esteemed Members,

I express my heartiest gratitude towards Honourable Prime Minister for convening the 6th meeting of NWRC. The objective of this meeting is to conclusively shape the National Water Policy 2012 which will benefit our citizens through optimum and equitable utilization of water resources.

In this meeting, I take an opportunity to draw your kind attention towards certain important aspects which are proposed in the Draft National Water Policy 2012 circulated by Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India.

1. Water is a state subject under the Constitution of India. Bihar is not in favour of any Central Legislation or Central Institution for management and regulation of water resources which impinge on the rights of the state. There could only be a national framework on general policies on water, but these should not be of regulatory nature. Such a framework can be advisory in nature. The proposed draft of National Water Policy 2012 is not formulated with due considerations to the "State Specific Needs". I submit that the National Water Policy should specially frame institutional systems and apparatus with a focus on "State Specific Needs".

2. The draft National Water Policy 2012 states that water is a natural resource. We know that various states in India are endowed with different types of natural resources, be it the rich deposits of mines and minerals or the location specific endowments such as ports or others. While such states harnessed the comparative advantages of their resources for rapid development, the resource deficit states could not benefit from such endowments. However, at present, water is being singled out as a national resource. This exception seems unfair. Such an attempt can slowdown the growth process of states like Bihar which are leveraging water resources towards their development strategy. I request that the proposed National Water Policy should envisage such principles similar to those applied for other natural resources.

3. The proposed draft states Eastern and North eastern regions of India as water rich. However, such blanket statement is a misnomer. For example, Bihar which is normally stated as a water rich state, has come to have water availability of only 1273 cum per capita in 2011. This is much below the 1700 cum per capita standard, thereby placing Bihar in Water Stressed Zone.

It must be noted that Bihar faces severe onslaught of floods in every monsoon season starting in June and continuing until October. In the absence of integrated storage structures, most of this water flows away without even recharging properly the

groundwater level. Therefore, it is imperative that should projects be prepared by experts so that the flood water is not drained wastefully. Proposed modification of Indian Easement Act 1982 in the Draft National Water Policy 2012 will not be practical for states like Bihar.

4. Bihar faces challenge of rising per capita consumption of water due to high growth rate, increase in population, urbanization, and changing lifestyles of people. In this context, it is pertinent to mention that an ambitious Agriculture Roadmap, prepared by the state, has been launched by the President of India, with the objective of bringing rainbow revolution in Bihar. Under this roadmap, the present cropping intensity of 151% will be raised to 180% by 2017 and 200% by 2022. This entails increasing the irrigation intensity from 83% at present to 158% by 2017 by 209% by 2022. Therefore, Bihar will have increasing requirement of water for agriculture. Hence, the National Water Policy must prioritize the specific needs of developing states in accelerating agricultural growth.

5. National Water Policy should also address the problem of waterlogged area. Apart from drainage and reclamation of waterlogged areas, emphasis should be given on integrated water resources management including economic activities such as promotion of fisheries and 'Makhana' and 'Singhara' cultivation.

6. Climate change is affecting the temporal and geographical distribution of rainfall. Therefore, dams and reservoirs are necessary for storage of water to mitigate the effects of climate change. The topography of Bihar is such that such dams and reservoirs can only be possible in Jharkhand, UP and Nepal only. Projects of high level dams are languishing due to inter-state disputes with Jharkhand and UP. In particular, North Koel Project, Batane Project, and Tilaiya Dhadhar Project with Jharkhand and Indrapuri (Kadwan) Reservoir Project with Uttar Pradesh are pending due to lack of actionable agreements. An effective mechanism is immediately needed to ensure resolution of inter-state issues and coordinated and scientific planning of land and water resources. Proper statutory provisions should be made for revolving such inter-state issues.

7. While formulating National Water Policy we must take due cognizance of the damages and sufferings caused by water sometimes. Bihar suffers flood devastation every year. Therefore, the National Water Policy 2012 must provide for studies by experts and implementation of projects for harnessing surplus flood water for useful purposes. Almost all rivers of North Bihar originate from Nepal and Tibet with approximately 61% catchment area in those regions. A very large part of Bihar is flooded by these trans-boundary rivers. Consequently, significant financial resources are spent each year on flood protection, flood fighting, relief and rehabilitation of affected population. All projects on trans-boundary rivers should be declared National Projects funded by Centre.

DPR preparation for Sapt Kosi-Sun Kosi High Dam, Multipurpose project on Bagmati River at Noonthor and survey and investigation work on dam construction at

Kamla River on Cheesapani are pending at the level of Ministry of Water Resources under Government of India. We also expect Government of India to take initiative with Nepal Government for developing a permanent institutional arrangement.

8. Interlinking of rivers has to be seriously looked into. Bihar is making notable progress in this direction. Preparations of DPR of nine projects for linking different rivers are in progress by National Water Development Agency. The regional Patna office of National Water Development Agency must be strengthened, so that preparation of DPR of these schemes is completed sooner. Based on the experiences thus far, priority must be given to intra-linking of rivers (within the state) which is more practical and prone to lesser disputes over interlinking of rivers (associated with two or more states).

9. Furthermore, we believe that drinking water be accorded the highest priority. With respect to prioritization of water use, the National Water Policy should consider several key aspects. The National Water Policy 2002 encouraged private sector participation in planning, development and management of water resources. However, this is not included in proposed draft. Instead, the policy attempts to diminish the role of state from being a service provider to now becoming a regulating and control agency.

10. The proposed draft rightly recognizes that appropriate economic principle should be applied to determine the pricing of water. However, economic principles alone do not resolve the issue of allocation of water to different sectors. The objectives of social justice, poverty and environment must also be factored in this perspective. Moreover, the important "polluter pays principle" is missing in the context of water quality conservation. In fact, it is replaced by the "incentives" for effluent treatment and for reuse of water. While reclaiming water is necessary to bridge the water deficit, lack of strong regulations to limit polluting activities and incentives to polluters (to treat effluents) might become perverse incentives to pollute more.

11. The demand of water from a particular river basin by a state should be determined proportionate to the contribution of its catchment area into the river. If any state uses water disproportionate to its contribution, then it becomes impossible for lower riparian states to fulfil the requirement of any international treaty or any other obligation. Therefore, an appropriate policy decision should be taken in this respect. This requires establishing institutional arrangements for ensuring proportionate use of water by states and coordination among the states to achieve this principle. In this respect, requisite provision should be made in National Water Policy 2012.

Bihar fully endorses the view that adequate research and training facilities must be developed at the state level alongside national level. In the light of water availability in Bihar and recurring floods, it is extremely desirable for developing research institutions for water resources development and management in Bihar.

Finally, I thank the Honourable Prime Minister hoping that the views of Government of Bihar would be accommodated while giving the final shape to the National Water Policy 2012.

Full Text of Speech of Shri K.V. Ramalingam, Minister for Public Works, Government of Tamil Nadu

Hon'ble Prime Minister, Hon'ble Union Ministers, Hon'ble Minister of State for Water Resources, Hon'ble Members of the Water Resources Council, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I, at the outset, convey the inability of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Puratchi Thalaivi J Jayalalithaa to be present with us in this meeting. I thank our Hon'ble Chief Minister for permitting me to be present here to convey the stand of our Government on the Draft National Water Policy, 2012.

Tamil Nadu depends heavily on rains for recharging its water resources and the State receives 80% of precipitation from the South West and North East monsoons. As far as the South West Monsoon is concerned, Tamil Nadu is considered as a rain shadow region as it lies on the leeward side of the Western Ghats. In addition to this, researchers predict changes in the intensity of rainfall and reduction in number of rainy days resulting in flash floods which cannot be stored effectively for future use. According to a study carried out by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), the frequency of drought in entire Tamil Nadu is once in three years. Therefore, change in climate leaves very little room for increasing the water potential. The total surface water potential of the State has been assessed as 853 T.M.C.ft., which includes 261 T.M.C.ft., contributed by the neighbouring States. The surface water potential has been fully harnessed. Tamil Nadu is the pioneer in Water Resources Management and is a model for other States.

I wish to state that our Government is already in the process of implementing Participatory Irrigation Management in a sub-basin framework through Water Users Associations under the Tamil Nadu Irrigated Agriculture Modernization and Water Bodies Restoration and Management Project which is implemented in the State with the assistance of the World Bank. The Government has been taking continuous efforts to improve water use efficiency and the service delivery mechanism of the irrigation sector, through capacity building at various levels. As per the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Puratchi Thalaivi J Jayalalithaa's Vision 2023, the Government of Tamil Nadu intends to make rapid strides in these fields, with the funding of Government of India and also under the Public Private Partnership mode. We appeal to the Government of India to encourage such projects which will focus on the improvement of infrastructure in the water sector and overall Governance.

In Tamil Nadu, the utilization of Ground water is about 80% of the available groundwater resources and its usage is already put to stress. Our Government is implementing Artificial Recharge Schemes to recharge the ground water potential which is very limited in space and time.

May I, with the permission of the Chair, raise certain important issues which require immediate attention by this august body before the draft policy is adopted?

- a) Any National Policy should be in consonance with the Federal framework of our Constitution. In the proposed National Water Policy, there are certain issues which directly infringe on the rights of the State Government and, therefore, it should be left to the State Governments to decide on those issues.

For example:- Devolution of Authority for the legislation on water should vest with the State Government. There is no need to evolve a National legal frame work.

- b) Inter-State water disputes should not hamper optimum utilization of water especially for lower riparian States. The policy should, therefore, ensure that the Upper riparian States do not object to the utilization of water by the lower riparian States especially in the drought prone and needy areas and the lower riparian State should not be compelled to get the concurrence of the other co-basin States for the projects enunciated.
- c) The existing Agreements, Awards of Tribunals, Covenants etc., should be protected in Inter State River Projects.
- d) In the scheme of things, priority should be given to domestic water supply by local bodies and Government Institutions. Drinking Water supply on commercial basis by large private industrial sectors should not be considered as domestic water supply.
- e) The policy states that in the water rich eastern and north eastern regions of India, the water use infrastructure is weak and needs to be strengthened in the interest of food security. This conveys an impression that the infrastructure is adequate in other regions. Instead, the policy should concentrate on “Strengthening water use infrastructure wherever it is weak” in the entire country.
- f) The policy envisages “An institutional arrangement for promotion, regulation and evolving mechanisms for efficient use of water at basin/sub-basin level at the National level. It is our State’s firm view that such an institution should be present only at the State level.
- g) Water Tariff:- The draft National Water Policy 2012, insists on water pricing and as a consequence, energy pricing as per economic viability norms. This is a clear infringement on the powers of the State Government. The State Government itself can decide whether water should be priced as an economic good or not. To insist on tariff and an Authority to fix the tariff will only lead to social unrest and we are against such a policy. In the absence of sufficient studies establishing linkages between usage efficiency and pricing, it is not correct to push through this measure in the guise of improving water usage efficiency.

- h) Dam Safety:- The State owning dam under whose control the dam is operated and maintained should have authority in matters related to the dam inspections, analysis of information reports or recommendations regarding regulating dam safety status, and measures to be undertaken to improve dam safety in respect of the dams located in another State. The Government of Tamil Nadu has already opposed certain provisions forming part of the Dam Safety Bill, since such provisions will be detrimental to the Dam owning State located in an other State and has urged the Government of India to delete such provisions from the Bill and has further suggested certain modifications. These are to be looked into in the proper perspective so that the rights of the Dam owning State are not infringed.
- i) The Project planning of all water resources projects which will have inter-state ramifications including hydro power projects should be managed by Central Government utilities (Central Water Commission, National Hydro Power Corporation Ltd (NHPC) to avoid conflict between State Governments and without infringing on the subsisting rights of the lower riparian States.
- j) Flood plain zoning should be attempted at least in major and medium river basins and activities within the flood plains should be regulated.
- K) The Policy envisages “A permanent Water Disputes Tribunal at Centre”. Our Government has already opposed this move, as already designated Tribunals for water disputes are functioning. The establishment of a Permanent Tribunal will be impracticable and ineffective. Further, it will expose the poor understanding of the disputes that arise in several river basins which are very varied in purport and content. Also, river basins differ widely in the total availability, utilization and nature of use of water in them besides the socio economic conditions and other parameters that require to be examined and taken into consideration in allocating the resources. It is only because each river basin is unique in its characteristics and the water disputes that arise are complex in their mode, unlike the usual civil and criminal cases normally dealt with the Courts, that Parliament had thought it wise to leave such disputes to be handled by the Tribunals which are special courts with all powers to gather data and direct the party States to lead evidence on all technical and other aspects of the disputes. Hence, the Government of Tamil Nadu reiterates its view that there is no need to establish a Permanent Water Disputes Tribunal for the adjudication of disputes amongst the States regarding inter-state Rivers.
- L) The following paras should also be deleted:-
 - (i) (para 12.5) “In addition, water budgeting and water accounting should be carried out for each aquifer” may be deleted since the aquifers are said to be widespread and inter-connected and water budgeting for each aquifer may not be feasible.

- (ii) (para 12.7) “States should be encouraged and incentivized to undertake reforms and progressive measures for innovations, conservation and efficient utilization of water resources” may be deleted since “incentivized to undertake reforms” may mean tying up of release of Central funds to the so called reform measures like imposing water tariff on agricultural use or creating a Water Authority which is to fix tariff and could be a clear violation of the rights of the State Governments to decide on such issues.

Before concluding my speech, I thank the Chairman, National Water Resources Council, for giving me the opportunity to present the views of the Government of Tamil Nadu in this August Forum and I hope that this Forum will ponder over our Government’s suggestions seriously and make necessary modifications, deletions etc., in the draft National Water Policy before it is adopted.

Full Text of Speech of Shri Yashpal Arya, Irrigation Minister, Uttarakhand

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Full Text of Speech of Shri Naveen Patnaik, Chief Minister of Odisha

Hon'ble Prime Minister, Hon'ble Union Ministers, Hon'ble Chief Ministers, Senior Officers and other distinguished participants. At the outset, I extend my thanks to the Hon'ble Prime Minister for convening the 6th meeting of the National Water Resources Council to discuss the draft National Water Policy, 2012 and other important issues relating to water resources development & management.

It is indeed a matter of concern that inter-state water disputes are not being resolved within the framework of law and adequate regard is not being paid towards the riparian rights of the different stakeholders. I would like to cite the example of the Polavaram project as a case in point. I have repeatedly pointed out to the Hon'ble Prime Minister, the Union Minister of Water Resources and the Union Minister of Environment and Forest that the environment clearance which has been given to this project suffers from serious flaws and needs to be withdrawn. Submergence of tribal lands in a sensitive district like Malkangiri has not been adequately addressed. In spite of our protest based on grave concern for the affected people, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has been going ahead with the project. Although the matter is subjudice, we are informed through newspaper reports that tenders are being floated and finalized in respect of this project. Our protests in respect of other interstate rivers such as Vamsadhara and Mahendratana have also fallen on deaf ears and the Government of Andhra Pradesh seems to have gone ahead with different projects on these rivers such as the flood flow canal over river Vamsadhara at Katragada and the offshore reservoir scheme over river Mahendratana. It may be appreciated that the role of the Union Government is to settle these disputes among the States in a fair and equitable manner within the framework of different awards and laws. I regret to point out that the Government of India has not played its role in resolving these issues and has forced us to take recourse to legal remedies before the Apex Court of the Country.

It is indeed an irony that the States in the eastern region which are well endowed in terms of water resources do not have adequate financial resources. I would like to impress upon this august Council that the Government of India should come out with a scheme which looks at development of water resources in a holistic manner in this region, unlike the existing AIBP which has a limited approach of completing incomplete projects. The new scheme should assist the States in developing new storage reservoirs and also help in harnessing the ground water within a sustainable framework. The State of Odisha receives an annual precipitation of around 230 billion cubic meters (BCM) against which storage capacity of only 17 billion cubic meters has been developed so far. Similarly, ground water utilization in our State has been only about 26% of the available resources. This only points out the huge potential which exists in Odisha for contributing to the National Food basket.

For sustainable use of water resources, we have prepared River basin plans of all river basins and started a River Basin organisation (RBO) on pilot basis in one of the

River basins. Water allocation for use of various sectors has been prioritized in the State Water Policy. This may be appropriately addressed at the national level.

The economy of our State is predominantly dependent on agriculture. My Government has taken a number of initiatives to provide assured irrigation to more and more areas in order to enhance agricultural productivity. So far, irrigation facilities of 30.89 lakh hectares have been created out of the cultivated land of 61.65 lakh hectares. During the 12th Plan, we plan to bring an additional 15% of the cultivated area under irrigation coverage and ensure at least 35% of the cultivated area in each block under assured irrigation with a projected outlay of Rs.18395 crore.

Execution of major and medium irrigation projects are being delayed due to problems of resettlement and rehabilitation, land acquisition, forest and environment clearances etc. It is becoming difficult to complete the irrigation projects as per the strict time schedule stipulated in the AIBP guideline. Extension of Time (EOT) may be considered to be granted at the appropriate time to ensure completion of such projects.

Since these projects are publicly funded, I would suggest that the Ministry of Forest and Environment should make special dispensation for forest and environmental clearance by delegating adequate power to the states so that the execution of the projects can be expedited. Similarly, the land acquisition bill currently under examination should also have suitable provision for publicly funded projects with the objective of quick execution of such projects.

Project planning and implementation in major, medium, flood control and multipurpose projects are often delayed due to various statutory clearances. The draft National Water Policy 2012 underscores time bound clearances. It is proposed to institutionalize a single window system of clearance to be coordinated and facilitated by the Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR). Central funding may be extended to complete pre-project activities such as land acquisition and Rehabilitation & Resettlement before grounding the project.

A large number of traditional water bodies in our state are in partly or completely derelict condition. The RR&R scheme has helped in reviving these water bodies. About 1000 water bodies have already been renovated and we plan to renovate all the other remaining water bodies during 12th Plan period.

Keeping in view the impact of climate change, emphasis is being given to water resource conservation. During 12th Plan, we have planned to create additional storage facilities of 1.47 BCM by completing all the ongoing major and medium reservoir projects. Further, Check Dams are being constructed in large number across nallahs and rivulets to conserve water at the end of the monsoon for drinking water, ground water recharge and irrigation. We have already completed 3000 check dams and plan to complete at least 15000 Check Dams during the 12th Plan Period.

The State has good ground water potential but our present level of exploitation is about 26%. A large number of Lift irrigation schemes are feasible by utilizing ground water. My Government, during 2010-11, has started a Deep Bore well construction programme with 90% subsidy to provide irrigation benefit to farmers in drought prone areas. So far, 13000 bore wells have been completed and we plan to install one lakh bore wells in the coming three years. It is learnt that the Central Government is going to launch a Ground Water Development scheme for Eastern and North-eastern India during the 12th Plan to boost agricultural productivity. Odisha needs to be given substantial central assistance under this scheme. This will help us in drought proofing and accelerating irrigation expansion in the State.

Odisha has been one of the pioneering states in introducing participatory irrigation management with active involvement of farmers. We have enacted suitable legislation to empower water users associations, called Pani Panchayats, in the State. Operation and maintenance of canal systems are being handed over to the Pani Panchayats to improve water use efficiency in irrigation.

Command Area Development and Water Management programme activities have been scaled up with active participation of Pani Panchayats. Farmers are now voluntarily contributing their land for the construction of field channels and field drains. To bridge the gap between the potential created and utilized, it has been planned to construct Field channel covering 2.15 lakh hectares and Field drain covering 1.16 lakh hectares during the 12th Plan.

For a State like Odisha, which is frequently ravaged by the fury of flood, flood control and drainage development are as important as irrigation. I would urge the Central Government to constitute a task force to examine the problems of flood, drainage congestion and coastal erosion of Odisha. For flood control and management in the state during 12th plan period, we plan to implement the Subarnarekha Sanskar Yojana, Drainage master plan, raising and strengthening of embankments in the Mahanadi Delta and flood control activities in the Brahmani-Baitarani doab. Expeditious clearance and funding of these projects may be considered under the Flood Management Programme (FMP) scheme.

I am grateful for having been given this opportunity to share some of my thoughts on this occasion.

Full Text of Speech of Dr. Mukul Sangama, Chief Minister of Meghalaya

Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri. Manmohan Singhji, Hon'ble Union Minister of Water Resources, Shri. Harish Rawatji, Respected Chief Ministers of the different states, Distinguished members of the National Water Resources Council, Senior Officials of the Central and State Governments and friends.

First of all, I would like to express my gratitude to the Hon'ble Prime Minister for convening this 6th meeting of the National Water Resources Council to consider the Draft National Water Policy 2012. I am very happy that I have got this opportunity to attend and participate in this important meeting and at the same time to congratulate and express my appreciation to the Ministry of Water Resources, Govt. of India for having prepared the Draft National Water Policy 2012.

Water is precious, more so to us in Meghalaya. Every falling drop of rain in addition to being the source of support for sustenance of ecosystems carries with itself a promise of economic well-being and healthy future.

There are several issues on the water front that require our priority attention such as increasing demand from various sources and the supplies to be managed, uncertain impact of climate change, possible conflicts over sharing and distribution of fresh water resources, degradation of catchments and its impact on sustainability of water resources.

In order to see that a well planned course of action for dealing with the above issues is put in place as a guiding framework for the accepted strategies and objectives and to offer a link between the long term vision and the day-to-day management, a comprehensive National Water Policy is of utmost importance. In this context the efforts put in by the Government of India are really laudable. We in Meghalaya have also initiated work to put in place the State Water Policy and the State Water Act.

The state of Meghalaya is blessed with bountiful water resources that need to be harnessed. Hydrologically, the state comprises of two basins, viz., the Left Bank of Brahmaputra Basin (11220.11 km²) and the Brahmaputra Tributaries Basin (11208.89 km²), three catchments viz. Kalang to Dhansiri Confluence (about 4464.74 km²), Bangladesh Border to Kalang Confluence (about 6720.50 km²) and South Flowing Drainage of Meghalaya (11208.89 km²), eight sub catchments with a size range of 2.08 to 2.46 lakh hectare and 35 watersheds with a size range of 0.05 to 2.67 lakh hectare.

However, the lack of effective water resource management in the past resulted into soil erosion and land degradation in the hills and silting of river beds. The problem has been further aggravated by the prevalence of shifting cultivation, coal mining, stone and sand quarrying, disposal of municipal waste and destruction of forests in catchment areas of the major rivers and streams.

About half the people of Meghalaya live below the poverty line. If we are to achieve the goal of reducing poverty and improving the basic services and welfare of the people residing in rural villages, it is imperative to adopt a forward looking approach for making optimum and productive utilization of the state's natural resources, viz., "Water", "Land" and "Biotic Resources". Better convergence, better governance and higher participation of the communities in the developmental efforts have therefore been made central to our holistic development initiative.

Scientific determination of the availability of surface and ground water for current and future use is an important task. Equally, if not more important, is to know the spatial and temporal variations as well as the quality of surface and ground water resources. For this, it is imperative that all water bodies, including large ponds, be monitored regularly. Hence, instrumentation of water bodies for water quality and quantity monitoring, even at the local level, is imperative.

We have taken serious note of the urgent need to effectively manage our water resources and have initiated certain innovative programmes along with the reform measures for re-engineering the delivery systems. Our state Flagship programme known as the "Integrated Basin Development and Livelihood Promotion Programme" which aims, among other goals, the Integrated Water Resources Management in the State is an important milestone in this regard. As part of this initiative, water balance is being worked out for the entire state upto the micro-watershed level. Steps have been taken to ensure sustainable harnessing of water and other natural resources following the ridge to valley approach.

In the state of Meghalaya, agriculture is the backbone of the economy as almost 80% of the population are directly or indirectly involved in the agriculture and related activities. The state, in spite of its high annual rainfall, suffers from severe water crisis in the winter months as the rainfall is concentrated in just 4-5 months of the year and the topography of the state is mostly hilly terrain and as such the runoff quickly escapes to the plains of either Assam or Bangladesh and renders the state in a severe water crisis. The distribution of rainfall is also very much erratic and that is likely to be further accentuated with the impact of climate change. In this context, assured irrigation assumes utmost importance.

The identified Irrigation potential in the state is 2.18 lakh hectares, out of which 60714.73 Ha. has been created at the end of the 11th Plan. Therefore, there is the urgent need to step up the pace of irrigation development in the state so as to achieve the target of 100% irrigation by the end of the 13th Plan (2017-2022). The achievement of irrigation in the 11th plan was 33699.17 Ha. and the target for 12th plan is 65000 Ha. In view of the targets fixed, the state is endeavoring to mobilize funds from different sources. As of now, the main source of funding for Irrigation projects is through the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) under the Ministry of water Resources. The investment made under AIBP during the last 2 years was Rs.13000 lakhs (2010-11) and Rs.12783 lakhs (2011-12), which shows a marked increase in comparison to that

of previous years such as Rs.2304 lakhs only during 2008-09 and Rs.2777 lakhs only during 2009-10.

Under Rural Drinking Water Supply, as on 1.4.11, 5041 habitations have been fully covered while 4285 habitations have been partially covered both in terms of coverage and per capita availability, out of a total of 9326 habitations in the state. Provision of safe drinking water supply to the remaining partially covered Habitations, including other Newly Identified partially covered Habitations (slipped back from fully covered category due to various reasons including drying up of sources, etc) will be taken up as per the guidelines of Govt. of India during the 12th plan period. As on 1.4.11, there existed 102 nos. of Iron Affected Habitations in the state. Steps would also be taken for covering the Iron affected habitations and any newly identified water quality problem habitations during the 12th plan period. The Main Thrust of the Department in the Rural water Supply Sector during the 12th plan period would be to cover all the remaining Partially Covered Habitations as well as Quality Affected Habitations with a minimum of 40 Lpcd of potable safe water.

Steps are being taken to rehabilitate Affected water Supply Schemes in iron affected and high acidity areas prevailing in coal mining belts for providing safe drinking water to the people residing in those areas. Remaining uncovered Govt./Govt. aided schools & SSA schools which came up before 2006 and Anganwadis housed in permanent Govt. building, CHCs/PHCs/Health Sub-Centres will also be provided with safe and adequate drinking water facilities. Schools having water quality problem will be provided with Stand Alone Water Purification System. Harvesting water from cloud through implementation of Moisture to water project, Installation of Pre-Fabricated community water purification units would be considered. Mobile Water Purification Units and Mobile water Testing Laboratories would also be considered as an Emergency Response for Disaster Management.

In the Urban water Supply sector, emphasis will be given on improvement & augmentation of water supply to all Urban Areas of the state both in respect of coverage, per capita availability as well as reliability and quality. New water Supply projects would be taken up for Improvement and Augmentation of water supply to all urban centers that may come up along with census 2011 including District Head Quarters. Possible funding for these projects from Internal Agencies of the GOI, MoUD under different programme like JNNURM, urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Town (UIDSSMT), etc. shall be explored. Possibility of obtaining fund for Implementation of these water Supply projects from External Agencies through GOI will also be explored. Emphasis will also be given on completion of the on-going urban water supply projects during the 12th Plan. Funding from external International Funding Agencies would also be explored.

As on date, the unrestricted peak power demand in the state is 610 MW. The installed capacity till the end of the 10th plan was 186.70 MW. The existing generating capacity is 272.70 MW with the addition of 84 MW from the Myntdu Leshka HEP and 2 MW from RM & U of Umiam Stage II Power Station (2x10 MW) during the 11th plan.

The existing power availability is 482.70 MW including 210 MW power from the central Share. Therefore, the power deficit in the state is of the order of 200 MW. Keeping in view the stated power scenario of the state, scheme proposal in terms of capacity addition is being prepared to meet the power deficit of the state. Further, in line with the national objective of meeting the targeted capacity addition, the state is also gearing up tapping the available power potential in the state through survey & Investigation of Schemes both from Hydro projects as well as Thermal projects.

20,000 MW of hydroelectric potential if converted into village micro-hydel enterprises could well translate into a steady stream of economic activities as also become a source of income for the villages making every falling drop count.

Our state flagship programme- the Integrated Basin Development & Livelihood promotion programme (IBDLP) is being carried forward with the setting up of different missions which are designed to cater to specific sectors relating to the programme. The 9 main Missions of this programme are Apiculture, Aquaculture, Forestry & Plantation crops, Horticulture, Livestock, Rural Energy, Sericulture, Tourism & Water Mission. These Missions have the support of the accompanying measures which are Knowledge Management, Natural Resources Management & climate change adaptation, Media and outreach, Capacity Building, Infrastructure Development, Financial Inclusion, Market Access, Policy Support & Legislation, Convergence and Governance.

The successful implementation of the programme requires strong institutional support. Towards this end, related institutions have been re-engineered and the following new institutions have been established:

- a) Basin Development Council (BDC) headed by the Chief Minister.
- b) Meghalaya Basin Development Authority (MBDA) under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary.
- c) Basin Development Units (BDU) headed by the Deputy Commissioner of the concerned district.
- d) State Institute of Natural Resources.
- e) State Institute of Entrepreneurship.
- f) State Institute of Governance.
- g) State Water Resource Council, State Water Resource Development Agency and District Water Resource Councils.
- h) State Council for Climate Change Management and Sustainable Development.
- i) Enterprise Facilitation centers in the Block HQs and Mobile Multi-facility Centres for covering important market places.

Under this initiative, efforts are being made to comprehensively map the water resources in different watersheds, catchments, sub-basins and basins and promote structures as well as management framework to tap and use the same water resources along the cascades for different purposes such as drinking water supply, aquaculture, tourism, irrigation, hydel power and ground water recharge etc.

As part of this programme, we have taken several steps for promoting Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM). The institutions such as State Water Resource Council, State Water Resource Agency and the District Water Resource Councils have been created and mandated to promote this agenda. Creation of Small Multi-purpose Reservoirs along the identified negative spaces and Jalkunds for upland irrigation are also the important interventions under this Programme.

We feel that with a view to ensuring holistic development of water resources and to extend proper support for this purpose to all the States of the North Eastern Region, the Brahmaputra Board may be substituted with a Regional Water Management Authority having decentralized effective presence in each state capital of the North Eastern Region. More attention is also required for the development of appropriate water management technologies for the hilly areas along with an Integrated Flood Management Programme with thrust on catchment area treatment aimed at enhancing surface water retention, silt management and ground water recharge. These steps will help in checking river/ stream bank erosion, landslides, silting of rivers/ streams in the down streams areas part from flood management.

In concluding my speech, I would like to once again express my sincere gratitude to the Hon'ble Chairman, to the respected dignitaries and others in the audience for the patient hearing.

Full Text of Speech (in-absentia) of Shri Narendra Modi, Chief Minister of Gujarat

Respected Prime Minister, Shri Manmohan Singhji, Honorable Union Water Resources Minister Shri Harish Rawatji, distinguished Honorable Union Ministers, Honorable Chief Ministers, Lt. Governors and officers from Central and State Governments, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure and privilege to share my views before this august forum today on the draft National Water Policy 2012. I also take this opportunity to congratulate the Union Ministry of Water Resources for consideration of revising the National Water Policy 2002, which has assumed a great significance in today's context, and future development as well.

The Indian economy and society today face enormous challenges in the water sector. Water demands of our fast industrialising economy and urbanizing society are steeply increasing, but the potential for augmenting supply is limited, ground-water tables are rapidly falling and water quality issues are increasingly getting critical. Climate change poses new but serious challenges with its impacts on the Nature's hydrologic cycle. More extreme rates of precipitation and evapo-transpiration will worsen the impacts of floods and droughts. It is no wonder then that conflicts across competing uses and users of water are growing with passing of every day. These challenges can only be met through a paradigm shift in the management of water resources in India. The National Water Policy should obviously come out with clinical diagnosis of the problems and the correct remedial policy prescriptions along with timeframe for implementation. Further, the nature and magnitude of water challenges, that we have already started facing and will eventually become further severe in coming days, also call for innovative and out of box solutions.

Innovations hold the key

The National Water Policy should encourage such innovations in water sector which focus on finding affordable solutions for the needs of people with no sacrifice of quality of life or economic output. Innovation can play a key role in not only driving growth and competitive advantage, but also ensuring that this development becomes socially inclusive as well as economically and environmentally sustainable. Proactive States need to be incentivized in order to ensure that the nation's resources are utilized optimally and efficiently. Here, I would like to mention a few such innovative initiatives, which can be suitably extended and improvised further.

- 1) More than water demand management; the water management is going to be very crucial issue in coming years. In order to meet with the burgeoning water demands, we need to prepare water management experts. Necessary education and training needs to be incorporated in the curriculum, and also it is to be ensured that when these experts pass out from the universities, they are offered appropriate job opportunities. This would

serve as an incentive for students to take up the course for water management and the nation would benefit by infusing young talent in this field. The policy should incorporate this aspect so that it gets focused attention from all concerned.

- 2) Another aspect for which I would like to invite attention of this august body is the necessity to promote desalination in a big way. Our country has got about 4000 km long coast line. Why can't we think of utilizing saline water from sea by desalinization technology and other options as well? This will help ameliorate water availability, especially in the coastal area. To make desalination more effective, economy of scale is required as it seems to be an expensive affair. However, if the value of some other outputs such as sodium, potassium and magnesium is taken into account, it may turn out to be affordable. Another way of utilizing sea water is to blend it with potable water in required proportion so as to make such blended water fit for agriculture/ irrigation. In order to boost this technology, there is a need to provide appropriate incentives for innovations, so that desalination becomes affordable. Draft Water Policy should include this aspect also.
- 3) Recent experiments have shown some possibility of generation of water from the wind through wind mills. Though this is an emerging technology, further innovations are necessary. The policy should encourage such innovations because this will address twin-problems of electric power supply and water supply, especially for villages.
- 4) Rain water Harvesting and recycling of water is another area which can help augment the available water resources. Not only should these be made mandatory but, the policy should also stipulate certain percentages for such mandatory recycling of water for major cities as well as for industrial and commercial units which are the bulk users of water.
- 5) Natural replenishment of ground water reservoir is slow and is unable to keep pace with the excessive continued exploitation of ground water resources in various parts of the country. Magnitude of ground water exploitation with sub optimal planning has resulted in creating deleterious effects in terms of ground water depletion and quality deterioration. Augmentation of ground water reservoir through Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) offers a positive approach to overcome the problems of ground water scarcity. The Water Policy should have necessary provision for MAR.
- 6) Solar energy is another emerging technology and is very relevant in our country, where sun light is available in abundance and throughout the year. If the solar panels are laid all along the canals, dual purposes of nearly eliminating water-loss due to evaporation from the open canal as well as generation of solar energy without acquiring any land can be served. Gujarat has endeavoured this on pilot basis on one of the branch canals of Sardar Sarovar Project and the results are encouraging. This can be replicated elsewhere in the country on a large scale. However for its successful introduction; Government of India should provide financial assistance. This also needs to be incorporated as policy prescription in the draft water policy.

- 7) It is well known that open canal system causes heavy water loss through evaporation besides occupying a vast chunk of irrigable land. Further; the cost of acquisition of land and the time lost in the procedure is the major hindrance in the progress of canals. Laying of underground pipelines, wherever technically feasible, can be a better option to resolve all these issues. However, in order to give a big push, Government of India needs to provide financial assistance in view of the initial capital investment. The Government of Gujarat has already initiated actions in this regard for Sardar Sarovar Project command area. This aspect should also be addressed in our water policy document.
- 8) Demand side management also needs to be considered to meet with limited availability of water. Since, agriculture has a major share in total water use, there is an urgent need to promote research for new seed varieties that would require less water for growth and are also more water-stress resistant. The Water Policy should address this aspect suitably.

Need to revisit the Policy framed 10 years ago:

I would, like to bring out certain important and very relevant provisions as contained in the National Water Policy 2002, which do not find place in the draft Policy 2012. These are:

- 1) Draft Water Policy 2012 is silent about defining the priorities for water allocation which were clearly stipulated in National Water Policy 2002. The Water Policy should include this to serve as general guidance.
- 2) Provisions made for encouraging execution of water resources projects, benefitting the tribal and weaker sections of the society are missing in the draft Policy 2012. These need to be reconsidered for inclusion.
- 3) Provision for water zoning of the country is also not found in the draft Policy 2012. Economic development and allied activities including agricultural, industrial and urban development, should be planned with due regard to the constraints imposed by the configuration of water availability.
- 4) As laid down in National Water Policy 2002 the provision for enacting the Dam safety legislation may be continued to ensure proper inspection, maintenance and surveillance of existing dams and also to ensure proper planning, investigation, design and construction for safety of new dams.

Maintaining sanctity of Federal Structure

It is with a sense of great anguish and deep regret that I wish to draw the attention of this august body that the draft National Water Policy 2012 contains certain provisions which seem to be "clear attempts" amounting to tinker with the federal structure mandated by the Constitution. The proposed Policy lays down WATER FRAMEWORK LAW. Water is a 'State' subject as per the Constitution of India, Article

246-VIIth schedule, Entry-17, list-II (State List). While respecting such absolutely unambiguous constitutional provision, the National Water Policy cannot and should not have any provision enabling the formulation of water framework Law. At the most the Government of India can suggest suitable guidelines, if felt necessary.

Ground Water: Need to Consult the Stakeholders

The draft water policy tends to suggest for Government regulation of wells and their use which is highly sensitive and needs a cautious approach since it is concerning to our millions of farmers. There are more than 100 million agriculture land holdings in our country out of which small and marginal farmers, together, constitute about 80 percent of total holdings and their average is less than one hectare of land. Besides, the irrigation cover can at best be provided for about 60 percent of total cultivable area at national level. Further, the idea of considering water as community managed resource may seem to be very good; but its implementation may pose a number of unprecedented legal complexities. In this regard, we need to consider two-pronged strategy comprising of preventive measures framework and regulatory measures framework, especially for industrial and commercial use of ground water. Also, it would be prudent for the Policy makers to take a broader view and consult the farmers, and other stake-holders extensively before coming to any conclusion.

Other Important Aspects

- a) The Draft Policy also proposes for releasing certain amount of water for ecological purposes. This is definitely a welcome step. However, in existing schemes, it would be very difficult to do so at the cost of various established water uses. Looking to the practicalities of implementation, it seems appropriate to consider this provision only for projects to be taken up henceforth. Also, it would be prudent for the Policy makers to consult the farmers, and other stake-holders before coming to any conclusion in this regard.
- b) The Draft Policy 2012 touches upon the aspect of interlinking of rivers very cursorily. The fact is that the Ministry of Water Resources had formulated a National Perspective plan for water resources development by transferring water from water-surplus basins to water-deficit basins / regions by interlinking of rivers as early as in 1980 and this scheme of interlinking of rivers was approved with two components viz. Himalayan rivers and Peninsular rivers. As the population is growing and the availability of water is dwindling, there is an urgent need to transfer water from water-surplus to the deficient areas. 32 years later, the policy should now spell out concrete steps to be taken and draw up a time-bound action plan rather than skirting this issue of vital national importance.
- c) The draft Policy talks about pari-passu planning and execution of all components of a water resource project. Here, I would like to emphasize upon the need for simplification of procedures for Forest and Environment clearance; Land Acquisition procedures and the procedures for getting clearance from Railways & National Highways Authorities for

enabling pari-passu execution. The Policy must clearly spell out about effecting changes in Land Acquisition Act and Guidelines for Forest and Environment Clearances along with the mechanism for the single window clearance with time capping for issuance of requisite clearance / approval.

- d) As was rightly mentioned in National water policy 2002, the states find it difficult to fund the maintenance of water resource schemes which is under non-plan budget. Therefore, a centrally funded scheme or a National Corpus fund needs to be devised / created to help the States undertake properly the maintenance or upkeep of water resources schemes.
- e) Water disputes between the states are governed by the provisions of Inter State water Disputes Act, 1956, which was amended in the year 2002. It is our common knowledge and experience that, the Tribunals appointed for the purpose take years to come to any conclusion. Further, the award of the Tribunal is challenged by the aggrieved party resulting in further delay. Keeping this in view, the Sarkaria Commission on Center-State relationship has also recommended making necessary amendments in this Act including for fixing the time-limit for the settlement of such disputes by the Tribunals. The National Water .Policy should consider this recommendation of amending our existing legal framework / statutes so as to ensure that the inter-state water disputes are not suffering from undue delay and are settled timely.
- f) The erosion of land, by the sea in coastal areas should be minimised by suitable cost-effective measures. The concept of Coastal Regulatory Zone (CRZ) is now put into practice. However, our experience shows that this concept has retarded the progress of measures required to be taken for coastal protection against sea erosion. The Policy should spell out urgency of taking up such works on priority by differentiating the same from other developmental activities and should seek simplification in procedures for clearance.
- g) We agree that there should be realistic water pricing policy, so as to convey real value of water. Efficiency of water rate collection needs to be optimized along with minimizing the administrative cost of water rate collection. To incentivize the states in this regard, Government of India should consider a suitable scheme under which, the states are rewarded with additional financial assistance equal to at least their annual water rate collection.

Lastly, I would point out in this august house that a holistic vision is required while dealing with people and their problems. The National Water Policy needs to be accordingly realigned to reflect such vision. I expect that through our interactions we shall develop a better and objective appreciation of the critical issues involved and, thereby, a better vision for the future"

Full Text of Speech (in-absentia) of Shri Virbhadra Singh, Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh

Hon'ble Prime Minister, Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources, Hon'ble Union Ministers and esteemed members of the National Water Resources Council,

I must congratulate the Hon'ble Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh and the Hon'ble Water Resources Minister Sh. Harish Rawat who have taken the initiative to review the National Water Policy 2002, keeping in view the developments in the water sector as well as changing environmental conditions.

Himachal is a land of deities, endowed with rich natural resources and heritage. Each resource is revered in one way or the other. Our ancestors always kept our motherland in high-esteem for its resource richness and wonderful picturesque. Water, like all other natural resources, is sacred. Of late, mounting anthropogenic pressures and the radical change in consumption patterns and quest for materialistic gains has penetrated into our rich heritage and culture, As a result, today we are on the verge of confronting resource crunch especially the water scarcity. Though Himachal is gifted by the Mother Nature with huge water resources in the form of adequate rainfall and perennial rivers, yet the water is sometimes not available where it is required.

Our government is committed to ensure the equitable distribution of water and has taken concrete initiatives like making roof top rainwater harvesting mandatory and establishment of ground water authority to regulate, manage and develop ground water resources. We must preserve our water resources for generation next to uphold an old adage, which states "We did not inherit the planet from our ancestors but borrowed it for our children". We are, therefore, under tremendous obligation to balance water demand-supply equation. Our immediate challenge is to provide food & water to poor and ensure that rivers and forests are not converted into big sewers and dumping yards. We need to inculcate a habit of achieving zero wastage level, thereby, conserving and protecting our precious water reserves, for which comprehensive planning is required.

The State Government continues to accord top priority to the provision of safe drinking water and extending irrigation facilities to the farmers. All Census villages in the State have already been provided with drinking water facilities in the mid nineties. As per survey-2003 which was finalized during March, 2005, there are 53201 habitations in the Pradesh out of which 42476 habitations had been covered upto 3/2012. Out of the balance 10725 habitations there is a target to cover 2530 habitations during the year 2012-13. The State Government is providing drinking water @ 70 Litres Per Capita Per Day (LPCD) in rural areas against 55 LPCD envisaged in the 12th Plan. We intend to provide 70 LPCD water to all the remaining 10725 habitations by March, 2017. The Govt. of India may provide liberal assistance to the State in its endeavour to remove the large disparity between rates of water supply in rural & urban areas, which is one of the priorities of the Draft National Water Policy 2012.

As per census 2011, 89.5% families are using tap water in Himachal Pradesh while this figure was 84.1% in previous census. 83.9% of tap water is being made available from treated sources in Himachal Pradesh against 32% at National level.

The Government has an ongoing programme of providing hand pumps with focus on regions facing scarcity of water. 28073 hand pumps have been installed in the State so far. Government is committed to provide hand pumps on a need basis. Keeping in view the growing population of the urban areas, urban water supply schemes are also being augmented.

The State has been facing freak weather pattern i.e. lesser snow and rain fall during winter season, resulting in drying up of water sources. In view of the changing weather pattern, there is a need to change the designing pattern of water supply schemes in future. Accordingly new pattern to design/ execute new water supply schemes based on bigger water sources instead of small sources to cover maximum possible population is being adopted.

The Government is stressing sustainability measures mainly through Rain Water Harvesting Structures in the Pradesh and all the Government buildings, institutional buildings, Schools, Hotels and Industrial Units are required to construct Roof Top rain water harvesting structures and utilize the collected water for purposes such as flushing of water closets, gardening and cleaning purposes.

The State has adopted its own "State Water Policy". The stress is to provide adequate and safe drinking water to all and assured irrigation to maximum feasible cultivated area with people's participation in managing & conserving this critical natural resource for ensuring its long term sustainability. The Govt. has also passed the HP Ground Water (Regulation and Control of Development and Management) Act, 2005 and Rules. The main objective of this Act/ Rules is to ensure that exploitation of ground water resources does not exceed the natural replenishment of the aquifers and regulatory measures/ checks are adopted to avoid over exploitation of ground water.

There is 5.83 lakh hectares of culturable area in the state out of which 3.35 lakh hectares area can be brought under assured irrigation facility. An area of 2.53 lakh hectares has been brought under the command of irrigation schemes. Our agriculture based economy can achieve higher productivity levels only when we give priority for making available the requisite infrastructure. In view of this, efforts are being made to execute new Medium/Minor irrigation projects to bring the remaining area with irrigation facilities. Sprinkler irrigation is being encouraged to make best efficient use of water available for irrigation.

2.31 lakh hectares of land in the State has been identified as flood prone and we are making all out efforts to protect the life and property of the people of state. We have been able to protect 21575 hectares of area and many flood protection works are in progress. It is proposed to protect a big area of District Mandi, Hamirpur and Bilaspur from floods by channelizing Seer Khad in a phased manner. Channelization of Swan

River Phase 3rd below Santakhgarh bridge upto Punjab border and channelization of Swan upstream of Gagret bridge and tributaries is under consideration. Efforts are being made to get the channelization projects of Chhunch Khad in Tehsil Indora District Kangra and Palchan to Aut on river Beas in District Kullu approved.

With the aim to strengthen and develop a robust, comprehensive and reliable hydrological data base, our State is implementing World Bank funded Hydrology Project-II, costing Rs.59.48 crores. Observation stations are being established to monitor surface water, ground water and meteorological parameters, both quantitatively and qualitatively, and observed data shall be stored in easily accessible computerized Data banks for dissemination to various stakeholders. This project will be helpful for effective planning in water resource sector and bring in cost effectiveness in water related investment in the State.

In the end, I would express my gratitude to Hon'ble Prime Minister for the continuous support extended to the Pradesh by the Govt. of India in the past. I would also request indulgence to provide liberal assistance for development of the water resources infrastructure in the State, so that Himachal emerges as a role model not only for the hill States but for the entire country as well.

Full Text of Speech (in-absentia) of Shri O. Ibobi Singh, Chief Minister of Manipur

Hon'ble Prime Minister of India - Dr. Manmohan Singhji, Hon'ble Union Minister of Water Resources - Shri Harish Chandra Singh Rawatji, Hon'ble Chief Ministers of State Governments & Union Territories, Hon'ble Irrigation Ministers of State Governments & Union Territories, Senior Officers of the Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India, CWC and other Organisations, Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is indeed a matter of great privilege for me to address this August gathering. Manipur is a small state located in the north-eastern corner of India having an area of 22,327 Sq. km. with 1820 Sq. Km. of flat alluvial valley surrounded by the hills. The State has about 2.34 lakhs Ha. of cultivable area.

At present 8 (eight) Major and Medium irrigation Projects have been taken-up by the irrigation and Flood Control Department, Manipur. Out of these 8 (eight) projects, five projects namely (i) The Loktak Lift Irrigation Project (ii) The Imphal Barrage Project (iii) The Sekmai Barrage Project (iv) The Khoupum Dam Project and (v) The Singda Multi-purpose Project have been completed with a total cost of Rs. 68.18 crores and with an ultimate benefit of 43,640 Ha. of annual irrigation and 4 MGD (Million Gallons per day) of water supply. However, due to financial constraints, the State Government has not been able to maintain these five completed projects and consequently, the annual irrigation has been presently reduced to 5,500 Ha. Accordingly, our Irrigation & Flood Control Department has proposed to take-up Extension, Renovation & Modernisation (ERM) of the above 5 (five) completed projects so as to restore the original benefit of annual irrigation. In the 115th meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR), Government of India held on 24.07.2012, the detailed project reports in respect of (i) The Imphal Barrage Project and (ii) The Sekmai Barrage Project amounting to Rs.27.00 crores only have been accepted. The State Government has also submitted Detailed Project Reports in respect of the other 2 (two) ERM projects viz. (i) Singda Multi-purpose Project and (ii) Loktak Lift Irrigation Project to the Central Water Commission, Guwahati for consideration. ERM of Khoupum Dam Project is being proposed to be taken-up through the Minor Irrigation Department, Manipur by availing AIBP funding.

The remaining 3 (three) on-going projects are (i) The Khuga Multi-purpose Project (ii) The Dolaithabi Barrage Project and (iii) The Thoubal Multi-purpose Project. With the help of AIBP funding, the State Government is now in a position to complete the above 3 (three) on-going projects within the targeted periods. Here it would be pertinent to point out that the Khuga Multi-purpose Project has been commissioned in November 2010 and only a small portion of the canal systems remain to be completed, which are targeted to be completed by March, 2013. The Dolaithabi Barrage Project and the Thoubal Multi-purpose Project are targeted for completion by March, 2014 and March, 2015 respectively. The barrage and part of the canal system of Thoubal Multi-purpose Project have already been completed in 1991 and therefore, we are providing a

partial annual irrigation of 14,961 Ha. to the farmers since then. Similarly, the Khuga Multi-purpose Project is also providing a partial annual irrigation of 10,000 Ha. to the farmers.

The State Government is now considering to take-up 3 (three) new irrigation projects namely (i) Chakpi Multi-purpose Project (ii) Iril River Multi-purpose Project and (iii) Jiri River Irrigation Project in order to expand the benefits of irrigation as well as supply of drinking water and Hydro-Power Generation in the State. These 3 (three) projects will provide an additional annual irrigation of 37,245 Ha., 13 MGD of drinking water and 27.50 MW of hydro-power.

Our State is also experiencing flood damages almost every year due to erosion and overtopping of river banks caused by flash floods. The MoWR has been providing fund to the State Government under AIBP from the Xth Plan onwards to manage flood in the State. So far, 27 FMP schemes have been sanctioned for a total cost of Rs. 123.08 crores. During the current XIIth Plan, our Government is planning to tackle the problem in a systematic & comprehensive manner, Accordingly, our Irrigation & Flood Control Department is preparing DPRs which are tentatively estimated to cost of Rs. 2050.00 crores only for obtaining necessary sanction from the MoWR. These schemes have 2 (two) major components namely:

- (i) Anti-erosion and Flood Control Works on rivers of different river basins amounting to Rs. 1600.00 crores and;
- (ii) Development of Water Bodies in Lamphelpat area of Imphal City by improving drainage system and re-creation of part of erstwhile Lamphelpat lake. This project is expected to cost about Rs. 550.00 Cr.

For taking-up schemes under Minor Irrigation Department, Manipur, the MoWR has started providing fund under AIBP in the year 1999-2000 for taking up 108 MI Schemes. Since, 1999-2000 till 2009-10, 687 nos. of MI Schemes had been taken up under AIBP with an estimated cost of Rs.157.56 crores. Our Minor Irrigation Department is also planning to construct 2 (two) mini-barrages in each of the 9 (nine) districts of the State with an estimated cost of Rs. 10.00 crores per barrage under AIBP funding.

Our Command Area Development Authority is a multi-disciplinary Department established in 1982. All the Major, Medium and Minor Irrigation Projects, where potential are already created, are covered under CAD programmes for providing irrigation to the fields. During XIth Plan, 29608 Ha. of land was covered under CAD programmes and 42175 Ha. is targeted to be covered during XIIth Plan.

In order to find a comprehensive solution to the drinking water supply in Imphal City, which is our State capital, a meeting was held in the Hon'ble Prime Minister's Office on 07.09.2012. My Government is extremely thankful to the PMO for taking concrete decisions, which has decided to undertake the following three projects under provide Central funding:

- (i) Augmentation of Water Supply for Imphal City from Thoubal Dam amounting to Rs. 384.58 crore (Project-I).
- (ii) Construction of 45 MLD Water Treatment Plant -providing Clear Water Main from Treatment Plant upto Zonal Reservoirs amounting to Rs.168.58 crore (Project -II).
- (iii) Providing comprehensive new distribution network for Imphal City amounting to Rs. 844.83 crore (Project-III).

Our Government is also extremely thankful to the Planning Commission of India for according 'Investment Clearances' to the 3 (three) on-going 'Projects' namely – (i) Dolaithabi Barrage Project (ii) Thoubal Multi-purpose Project and (iii) Khuga Multi-purpose Project during the month of September, 2012. I am glad to declare that my Government would not leave any stone unturned in completing these three projects within the extended timelines and works would be taken-up on war footing, as soon as AIBP funds are released by MoWR to the State government.

Hon'ble Prime Minister Sir, let me complement the Ministry of Water Resources for taking pains to formulate a comprehensive and detailed draft National Water Policy, 2012, which would surely take care of the needs of different States and also held us utilise this precious natural resource optimally for the overall benefit of our citizens. I assure that, as soon as the National Water Policy, 2012 comes in force, our State Government would formulate Manipur State Water Policy, on the line of the present National Water Policy, 2012. I would like to place on record our State Government's wholehearted support to the draft National Water Policy, 2012 for adoption.

Finally, I would like to thank the organisers of this 6th Meeting of National Water Resources Council to consider the draft National Water Policy, 2012. I am sure the deliberations today would go a long way in the formulation of effective Water Policies for overall development of Irrigation facilities, supply of drinking water etc, in our country.

Full Text of Speech (in-absentia) of Shri Ram Vichar Nettam, Minister for Irrigation and Command Area Development, Chhatisgarh

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Full Text of Speech (in-absentia) of Shri Badal Choudhary, Minister for Water Resources, Tripura

Hon'ble Prime Minister and Chairman of the National Water Resources Council, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Water Resources and other distinguished members of the Council, respected colleagues from different states, officials, ladies and gentlemen. I am extremely happy to be here with all of you and would like to share with you views of the Government of Tripura on the draft National Water Policy for consideration of the Council.

Water is essential for sustainable life on this planet. With development and multifarious use of water, pressure on available water has been increasing with every passing day. It has necessitated judicious use and proper management of available water giving particular attention to the need of the disadvantaged segments of the society.

In this context, formulation of the National water Policy assumed special significance. It may be recalled that the National Water Policy was adopted by the Council in 2002. More than a decade has passed in the mean time and requirement of the society has undergone changes which require to be suitably incorporated in the revised National Water Policy. The Draft document sent by the Ministry has been examined by us. The Draft document prepared is more or less acceptable. Concerns for the North Eastern states are not, however, well reflected in this document.

VIEWS OF TRIPURA ON SOME ISSUES OF THE DRAFT DOCUMENT :

The National Water Policy document (2012) has been drafted under several articles. I would present views of Tripura on some issues contained in these articles whereupon Tripura has difference in perception:-

1. Water framework law:-

Constitution of India has kept water in the state list. In view of peculiar geographical, climatic and socio-economic entity of states water should continue to remain in state list. In making any water frame work law as mentioned in the Draft Document it may be looked into that the right of the states in this respect is not curbed. Any inter-state and international issues may be coordinated by the union Government in consultation with the states.

2. Enhancing water availability for use:-

North Eastern states receive good amount of rain every year. By construction of appropriate water infrastructure for storage and ground water tapping overall water demand of the North Eastern states may be met. Total production of North Eastern states would meet local demand and beyond that add to food security for the country. Priority for deployment of national investment to support construction of water infrastructure is absent in the draft. Provision may be made for this.

For enhancing water availability for use afforestation in hill areas need get special attention in the North Eastern states to conserve the streams fed by base flow.

3. Water pricing:-

The North Eastern region of the country including Tripura is geographically isolated and has weak physical infrastructure. The economy of the region is mainly based on agriculture which requires provision of water for irrigation for increasing production and productivity. Ensuring water for safe drinking and sanitation is also a prime necessity. The sizable section of the population live below the poverty line because of which the scope for collection of water charges from the population is very limited. Farmers having land holding less than 1 hectare should not be priced for water for irrigation as well as rural people should not be charged for drinking water. Besides, because of poor presence of private sectors, Government has to build a major role in setting development infrastructure for proper use of water with adequate public funding. This requires to be kept in view in formulation and implementation of the water Policy for meeting the requirement of the North Eastern region including Tripura in a meaningful manner.

4. Preservation of river corridors, Water Bodies and infrastructure:-

Rivers and water bodies get dried by siltation. Desiltation to conserve these should get priority in the policy frame. All the rivers of Tripura have lost their navigability by siltation. River corridors need restoration by resorting to periodical desiltation by dredging. All the natural lakes in Tripura are drying up due to siltation. They need restoration by desiltation. In Tripura context priority for desiltation is very important.

5. Project Planning and implementation:-

Currently Water Resource Project planning process is slow. In the context of increasing water stress in future, project planning may become further slow and complex. Priority may be given for strengthening the project planning process, from conceptualization to sanctioning, by strengthening the state and Central establishment.

6. Institutional arrangements:-

Shifting from service provider role of state to regulatory role will not be appropriate for the North Eastern States. However, efficiency of service of state need be ensured.

7. **Transboundary rivers:-**

That the North Eastern states have international boundary with number of countries, for example, Tripura has over 80% of its boundary common with Bangladesh, the common water resources of rivers of international nature are required to be managed properly keeping in view the necessity of our farmers. In this context, Ministry of Water Resources may build up suitable mechanism for utilization of available water resources and expeditious resolving the disputing issues.

POLICY NEEDS PROPER IMPLEMENTATION:

It may not be out of context to mention that preparing policy document would not help the real development. On the basis of experience it is felt that proper implementation of good policy is to be ensured. I would humbly share our experience in this respect.

1. A.I.B.P. is a good scheme for the North-Eastern states with 90:10 fund pattern. But its investment norm Rs.1.5 lacs per hectare of irrigation potential is quite inadequate to meet up actual cost of any storage or diversion projects for irrigation in the North-Eastern states. Present cost trend is Rs. 3.5 lacs per hectare. The need for setting up appropriate norm in this respect has been remaining unsatisfied for long.
2. There is a good amount of untapped ground water in the North Eastern states. For example, the present level of ground water exploitation in Tripura is 10% only. There is need for inclusion of ground water projects under A.I.B.P scheme for the North Eastern states. This need has also been remaining unsatisfied for long.
3. F.M.P. scheme for flood control works is another good scheme for the North Eastern states with 90:10 funding pattern. But project sanction process is so slow that hardly any work can be done under this scheme. For example, (i) one project naming "Rudrasagar Drainage Development Scheme" for a project cost Rs. 14.98 crores has taken about 15 years for formulation by Brahmaputra Board and thereafter sanction by Govt. of India, (ii) 3 (three) nos. of erosion control projects for Haora, Khowai and Gomati rivers of Tripura for a total cost of Rs.140.00 crores have been remaining in process for sanction of Govt. of India for last 3 (three) years. Plan allocation of fund becomes futile for such slow sanction process.
4. Brahmaputra Board was instituted for special attention of the water resources problems of the North Eastern states. It needs no mention that the performance of the Board is far below expectation. Its project formulation process is equally very slow. For example, one project naming "Dharmanagar drainage development project" of Tripura is under process for last 10 (ten) years. No project has been implemented by the Board in Tripura.

Whatever projects are under implementation or under special attention by the Board are Assam-Arunachal Pradesh centric.

5. In the context of the noted devastation of flood in the North Eastern states a Task Force was constituted by the Hon'ble Prime Minister in the year 2004 to look into the problems of receiving flood in the north Eastern States. Task force had recommended Rs.92.52 crores for immediate short term work against total representation for Rs. 306.736 crores for Tripura. No straight fund was given against the recommendation. Only Rs.12.76 crores was deployed during 10th Plan. Rs.21.00 crores has been deployed during XIth Plan under FMP state sector scheme. This has frustrated the purpose of formation of the Task Force.

SUGGESTIONS :

Equity and equilibrium intended in policy and planning need be synchronized with the project formulation, sanctioning, monitoring and implementation processes after proper evaluation. A few suggestions in this connection are presented :

- i) Brahmaputra Board may be empowered/ reconstituted and restructured appropriately for effective functioning for development of water Resources in the North Eastern states. One officer of Brahmaputra Board in the rank of Chief Engineer may be posed in every North Eastern state with proper administrative support and given responsibility for formulation of project adjustable to the field condition, conducting sanctioning the projects at state level similarly to the projects in RKVY and Drinking Water Supply and also monitoring proper implementation of the sanctioned project.
- ii) Govt. of India may arrange for some funding scheme for preparation of D.P.R. in the North Eastern states for water Resources sector.
- iii) There may be some exchange of officials on deputation for the benefit of improvement of technical skill of the state establishment.
- iv) Schemes pending with central water commission for sanction may be scrutinize with prompt 'deciding-for-sanction' approach as this matter has linkage with fund flow to the state on equity consideration. Small variation in the design consideration should not come in the way of prompt deciding a project.

CONCLUSION:

Water use infrastructure in the water rich north Eastern states is weak. Devastating floods cause severe losses to properties and public utilities every year. Socio-economic base is also weak. Hence it is appealed that the National Water Policy (2012) would recognize these factors for the North Eastern states and make provision for appropriate remedy.