

Amendments in the National Water Policy

†*133. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government had decided to bring out certain amendments in the National Water Policy declared in the year 1987;
- (b) if so, the details of such amendments;
- (c) whether these amendments have been included in the National Water Policy;
- (d) if not, the reasons for delay; and
- (e) if so, when they were included?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (DR. CP. THAKUR): (a) to (e) Since the adoption of the National Water Policy in 1987, a number of problems/challenges have emerged in the development and management of the Water Resources Sector. Therefore, the existing National Water Policy needs to be reviewed and updated in the context of the prevailing problems/emerging challenges and also in the light of the experiences gained over 10 years of its implementation. Some of the important areas/aspects, which have to be considered for their inclusion in the existing National Water Policy, include multi-sectoral perspective and participatory approach towards resources planning and management, private sector participation, integration of quantity, quality and environmental aspects in water resources management, mandatory operation and maintenance, funding and related policies for revenue generation and reforms related to legislations, institutions, incentives/ disincentives, environments and technology. The updated draft National Water Policy is to be put up very soon to the National Water Resources Council for consideration and adoption.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi