

Sl. No.	States	2014-15	2015-16
10.	Meghalaya	43	1
11.	Mizoram	45	16
12.	Nagaland	10	0
13.	Odisha	13	1264
14.	Rajasthan	70	163
15.	Tripura	0	9
16.	Uttar Pradesh	59	1305
17.	Uttarakhand	4	0
18.	West Bengal	0	8
TOTAL		1405	7108

#### **National Water Framework Law**

\*3. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to put in place a National Water Framework Law to manage the precious water resource in a better way;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the draft framework has been prepared with all ingredients of the National Water Policy and circulated to States and Union Territories for their views; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SUSHRI UMA BHARATI): (a) to (d) The National Water Policy (2012) was adopted by the National Water Resources Council. Wherein the need to evolve a National Water Framework Law as an umbrella statement of general principles governing the exercise of legislative/executive powers by the Centre, the States and the local governing bodies was emphasized, thereby making such consensual principles justifiable.

A Committee headed by Dr. Y.K. Alagh was constituted for Drafting National Water Framework Law on 3rd July, 2012. The Committee considering the recommendation of National Water Policy, 2012 submitted its Report to the Government in May, 2013. The report has been circulated among all States/Union Territories & related Central Ministries and also placed on the website of the Ministry.

The National Water Framework proposes to establish a framework with governing principles for protection, conservation and regulation of waters and for matters connected and incidental thereto. The salient features of the draft National Water Framework Bill are given in Statement (*See* below).

A Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Mihir Shah has been constituted on 28.12.2015 to examine the provisions of the draft National Water Framework Law and suggest changes/modifications therein taking into account *inter-alia* the emerging challenges in the water sector, reuse of waste water after treatment, the likely impact of climate change on water resources, importance of river rejuvenation, water contamination issue etc.

#### ***Statement***

##### *Salient features of Draft National Water Framework Bill*

- (1) The draft National Water Framework Bill proposes to establish an umbrella statement of general principles governing the exercise of legislative and/or executive (or devolved) powers by the Centre, the States and the local governing bodies, which should 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.
- (2) It proposes eighteen Basic Principles for Water Management to bring different State legal interventions within a framework of governing principles and alignment of existing legislations both at the Central as well as State level to conform to the principles and provisions of this Bill.
- (3) It proposes that every individual should have a right to a minimum quantity of potable water (not less than 25 litres per capita per day) for essential health and hygiene and within easy reach of the household, which may be provided free of cost to eligible households, being part of pre-emptive need.
- (4) It proposes establishment of an independent statutory Water Regulatory Authority by every State for ensuring equitable access to water for all and its fair pricing on volumetric basis, for drinking and other uses such as sanitation, agricultural and industrial.
- (5) It proposes that all water resources projects conform to the River Basin Master Plan to be prepared, applicable efficiency benchmarks and take into account all social and environmental aspects in addition to techno-economic considerations.
- (6) It proposes that the groundwater be protected, conserved and regulated through

appropriate laws and by adequate and efficient measures using precautionary approach, with active participation of Community Based Institutions.

- (7) It proposes conformance to the Service Level Benchmarks for water supply, sanitation, solid waste management and storm water drainage, as may be prescribed.
- (8) It proposes that Industries either withdraw only the make up water or have an obligation to return treated effluent to a specified standard back to the hydrologic system and to file annual 'Water returns'.
- (9) It proposes that the appropriate Government take all possible measures to synergise and integrate different development schemes including schemes for water conservation, sanitation and improvement of water quality at Panchayat or Municipality level, as the case may be, and further at sub basin and basin level.
- (10) It proposes that a High Powered Committee be set up at the Centre and in each State for coordination and policy support mechanism between different agencies dealing with water etc.

#### **Commercialisation of coal mining**

\*4. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to commercialise coal mining and invite private firms and auction coal blocks to them, with a view to have transparent mining and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that private firms are not coming forward to participate in auctioning of coal mines and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the incentives being offered by Government to attract the private firms to participate in coal mining?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):  
(a) Enabling provisions have been made in the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 and the Mines and Mineral (Development & Regulations) Act, 1957 for allocation of coal mines/blocks by way of auction and allotment *inter alia* for sale of coal. However, guidelines have still not been worked out for commercial coal mining by private firms.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The Government has successfully auctioned 31 coal mines in three tranches to the regulated as well as non-regulated sector under the provisions