

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 19.11.2009**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**SHORTAGE OF WATER .**

15

Smt. Mohsina Kidwai

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :-

(a) whether the Supreme Court has recently expressed concern over the shortage of water in the country and directed the Union and State Governments to take short term measures to solve the problem on a war footing;

(b) if so, whether on the directions of the Supreme Court, Government has taken any steps in this regard;

(c) if so, details thereof;

(d) whether the Union Government, in discussion with the State Governments, has formulated any strategies to address the shortage of water; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO 15 TO BE ANSWERED ON 19-11-2009 REGARDING 'WATER SHORTAGE'

(a) & (b): Yes, sir.

(c)The Hon'ble Supreme Court, through an order issued on 28th April, 2009, directed the Central government to constitute a committee, with Secretary, Union Ministry of Science and Technology as Chairman and Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources as a Member and other technical experts, nominated by Chairman, for finding out research based technological solutions for addressing the problem of water shortage in the country. In pursuance of this directive, the Government has constituted a Technical Expert Committee with a provision of consultation with State Governments.

(d)Yes, sir.

(e)A 'Plan Document', detailing various water challenges, methodology for implementation of activities, time schedule, etc., has been drawn to find out technological solutions to address the problem of water shortage in the country. As stated in this Document, the programme includes demonstration and proving of research based technological solutions, under real field conditions in collaboration with State Governments, for various water challenges at different locations across the country.