

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 10.12.2009**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**WATER DISPUTES BETWEEN STATES .**

2438

Dr. E.M. Sudarsana Natchiappan

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether Government has taken notice of increasing number of cases in the courts on the water disputes between the States due to violation of lower riparian rights while new proposals for reservoir and diversion of water of upper part in other States; and
- (b) if so, whether any proposal is contemplated to make the decision of Government final or otherwise, to create an independent permanent India River Water and Waterways Regulatory Authority?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES

(SHRI VINCENT H. PALA)

(a) & (b) As per the Inter-State River Water Disputes (ISRWD) Act, 1956, the water dispute arises among two or more State Governments when the Central Government receives request under Section 3 of the Act from any of the basin States with regard to existence of water dispute. The mechanism for settlement of water dispute is already available in the form of Inter-State River Water Disputes (ISRWD) Act, 1956 which provides for settlement of disputes by negotiations failing which referring such dispute to a tribunal for adjudication. Inter-state water disputes presently referred to the Central Government under ISRWD Act-1956 are related to Cauvery, Krishna, Ravi & Beas, Mahadayi and Vansadhara Rivers.

The ISRWD Act, 1956 has been amended in the year 2002 whereby the adjudication of the water disputes by the tribunal has been made time-bound. Further, as per provisions of the ISRWD Act, 1956, the decision of the tribunal after publication in the official Gazette by the Central Government shall be final & binding on the parties to the dispute and shall have same force as an order or decree of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.