



भारत 2023 INDIA

वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम्

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देवश्री मुखर्जी

Debashree Mukherjee

सचिव

SECRETARY



सत्यमेव जयते



आज़ादी का  
अमृत महोत्सव

भारत सरकार  
जल शक्ति मंत्रालय  
जल संसाधन, नदी विकास  
और गंगा संरक्षण विभाग

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES,  
RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

D.O. No. F-12011/1/2023-Coord

11<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Dear Sir,

In compliance with your D.O. letter dtd 24.10.2024, I would like to bring to your notice the following significant matters of DoWR, RD & GR.

**(i) Inter-State River Water Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 2024 :-** The Inter-State River Water Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 2024 aims to address shortcomings in the existing Inter-State River Water Disputes Act, 1956, which mandates the establishment of separate tribunals for each water dispute, leading to significant delays. The amendment seeks to streamline dispute Resolution by introducing a pre-tribunal mechanism to resolve disputes through Disputes Resolution Committees, and thereafter, by a single Standing Tribunal with multiple Benches to replace the multiple Independent Tribunals.

The Inter-State River Water Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 2019 was introduced in Lok Sabha on 25.07.2019 and was subsequently passed by the House on 31.07.2019. Pursuant to passage of the Bill in Lok Sabha, it was observed that further amendment is required in clause-3 (related to section-4 of ISRWD Act, 1956) of the proposed Bill. Thereafter, after obtaining the approval of Cabinet, the Bill was supposed to be introduced in the Rajya Sabha in the coming Session of Parliament, 2022. After the Rajya Sabha clears the Bill, it will go back to the Lok Sabha to be passed. Cabinet Approval has not been received so far and the Bill lapsed due to the dissolution of 17th Lok Sabha.

It is proposed to introduce the Inter-State River Water Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 2024 in the 18th Lok Sabha after obtaining the approval of the Competent Authority. The Draft Cabinet Note is ready.

**(ii) Model Integrated Water Resources Management Bill :** In order to improve the planning, management and use of water resources and follow the principles of Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM), a Model State IWRM Bill has been drafted by the Department of Water Resources.

The Model Bill has been drafted taking into account the provisions of the various Draft Bills on which the Department of Water Resources was earlier working such as Draft National water framework Bill, Draft Ground Water Management Bill, Draft Flood Plan Zoning Bill, Draft River Conservation Bill Draft and River Basin Management Bill to streamline water management and reduce the multiplicity of regulatory authorities. The best practices at the National and International level to implement IWRM have also been taken into account while drafting the Bill.

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The Model Bill establishes an institutional framework with a State Water Council to provide overall guidance, a State Integrated Water Resource Management Authority to govern the various technical, planning, and regulatory aspects of water resource management at the State level, along with District, Municipal, and Village level Integrated Water Resource Management Councils with specific responsibilities in respect of water resource planning and management in their respective jurisdictions.

The Bill is still at the draft stage and requires consultation with Central Ministries and State Governments. The draft has been approved by Minister, Jal Shakti and is being circulated to the stakeholders.

**(iii) 5<sup>th</sup> National Water Awards 2024 :** The 5<sup>th</sup> National Water Award 2023 was organized by Ministry of Jal Shakti on 22.10.2024 at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi. The Hon'ble President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu conferred the 5<sup>th</sup> National Water Awards, 2023 to 38 winners, including joint winners across 09 categories for their exemplary work in the field of water conservation and management. Each award winner was conferred with a citation and a trophy as well as cash prizes in certain categories. Odisha state, the first winner in the state category, has made exemplary strides in water conservation by creating about 53,000 water conservation & rain water harvesting structures, 10,800 reuse & recharge structures, 68,700 watershed development and 21,000 waste water treatment plants as well as renovating 11,000 traditional water bodies.

**(iv) Storage Position of Important Reservoirs :** Central Water Commission (CWC) is monitoring the live storage position of 155 important reservoirs spread all over the country and issuing bulletins every Thursday. The overall storage position in 155 reservoirs as on 01.11.2024 was 156.863 BCM which is 123% of the live storage of corresponding period of last year and 115% of average storage of last ten years. Out of the 155 Reservoirs being monitored, 20 reservoirs are of Hydro-Electric projects having total live storage capacity of 35.299 BCM and 16 Reservoirs of these had Storage more than the average of last 10 years.

*With Regards,*

Yours sincerely,



**(Debashree Mukherjee)**

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