

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:880

ANSWERED ON:08.12.2003

SAND MINING ON RIVER BEDS IN RIVERS

A.K. PREMAJAM;V.M. SUDHEERAN;VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware that large scale sand mining on the river beds of inter-State and State rivers are causing serious ecological and environmental problems;
- (b) if so, whether any comprehensive study has been conducted to ascertain the impact of such sand mining;
- (c) if so, whether there is any mechanism to assess the level at which the sand mining on river beds could be carried out;
- (d) whether the Government propose to evolve any national policy on the issue; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

- (a) Government is aware of sand mining in the river beds of inter-State and State rivers. However, so far no adverse report on ecological & environmental problem resulting from sand mining in river beds has been brought to the notice of the Ministry of Water Resources.
- (b) & (c) Do not arise.
- (d) & (e) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government at present.