

PREFACE

The present study is the first in the series of studies proposed by the Indian Law Institute on the legal aspects of the control and development of water resources in India. This study was undertaken by the Institute at the request of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power, Government of India, New Delhi. The Constitution of India assigns a primary role to the states to develop water resources in their respective regions. However, action taken by a state to implement a water scheme has usually repercussions on the other state or states. Therefore, a number of interstate water disputes have arisen in India. The primary objective of this study is to suggest guidelines, both substantive and procedural, for solving these disputes. The book discusses, *inter alia*, important interstate water disputes which have been either settled or awaiting settlement, principles and machinery evolved in other federal countries, particularly the United States of America, for settling such disputes, position in international law with regard to the water disputes amongst sovereign states, and the statutory provisions in India concerning interstate water disputes. Finally, several recommendations are made for amending the Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956.

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