GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF PLANNING

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 109 TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.12.2023

COMPOSITE WATER MANAGEMENT INDEX

- 109 SHRI MOHAMMED NADIMUL HAQUE:
 - Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering the discontinuation of Composite Water Management Index, a key report on water management, if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that CWMI findings have not been released in public domain since 2019, if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government plans to explore alternate indexing channels, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the average per capita annual water availability reduced from 1,545 cubic meters in 2011 to 1,486 cubic meters in 2021, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION; MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS

(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a), (b) & (c) NITI Aayog has been publishing Composite Water Management Index (CWMI) since 2018. So far two editions CWMI (June 2018) and CWMI 2.0 (August 2019) have been published. Subsequent edition of CWMI was prepared in August 2022 with delay due to the nationwide Covid-19 situation. After due deliberations with the concerned Ministries and Departments, the scope of CWMI was extended up to district levels, and to increase the data granularity, it was decided that data for some of the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) will be collected at district level. Therefore, it was ideated that a combined report of editions up to CWMI 6.0 should be released.

It was also decided that other channels need to be explored to take the task of indexing rather than relying only on CWMI; and there is a need to make data and its analysis more useful or applied in planning, decision making, policy formulation or research by public or private stakeholders concerned with water sector. Views of the Ministry/Departments have been sought in this regard.

(d) The average annual water availability of any region or country is largely dependent upon hydrometeorological and geological factors. However, water availability per person is dependent on population of the country. For India, per capita water availability is reducing primarily due to increase in population. The average annual per capita water availability has been assessed as 1545 cubic meters in 2011 and 1486 cubic meter in 2021.
