

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES,
RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †1758
ANSWERED ON 20.12.2018

SCARCITY OF WATER

†1758. SHRI NIHAL CHAND

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is acute scarcity of water in various parts of the country despite average monsoon and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has taken cognizance of the matter and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has prepared any draft to ensure adequate availability of water especially potable water in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the number of additional water reservoirs created by the Government in the country during the last two years, State-wise?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION & PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a) & (b) As per Indian Meteorological Department, during monsoon season 2018 (from 1st June to 30th September 2018) the seasonal rainfall activity for the country as a whole has been 9% below the long period average. So far as district wise rainfall is concerned, 195 districts out of 712 districts in the Country reported deficient seasonal rainfall during southwest monsoon season 2018.

Total water availability of India received through precipitation has been assessed about 4000 Billion Cubic Meter (BCM) per annum. After evaporation, 1869 BCM water is available as natural runoff. Due to topographical and other factors, the utilizable water availability is limited to 1137 BCM per annum comprising 690 BCM of surface water and 447 BCM of replenishable ground water.

Total requirement of the country for different uses for high demand scenario for the years 2010, 2025 and 2050 has been assessed as 710 BCM, 843 BCM and 1180 BCM respectively.

The average annual water availability of any region or country is largely dependent upon hydro-meteorological and geological factors and is generally constant. However, water availability per person is dependent on population of the country and for India; water availability per capita is reducing progressively due to increase in population. The average annual per capita water

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availability in the years 2001 and 2011 was assessed as 1816 cubic meters and 1545 cubic meters respectively which may reduce further to 1340 and 1140 in the years 2025 and 2050 respectively. Annual per-capita water availability of less than 1700 cubic meters is considered as water stressed condition, whereas annual per-capita water availability below 1000 cubic meters is considered as a water scarcity condition. Due to high temporal and spatial variation of precipitation, the water availability of many region of the country is much below the national average and can be considered as water stressed / water scarce.

(c) & (d) Water being a State subject, steps for augmentation, conservation and efficient management of water resources including identification of new sources of water are primarily undertaken by the respective State Governments. In order to supplement the efforts of the State Governments, Central Government provides technical and financial assistance to them through various schemes and programmes. Central Government has taken various steps to improve availability of water in the country.

Central Government has formulated a National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Water Resources Development which envisages transfer of water from water surplus basins to water deficit basins to improve availability of water.

Central Government has launched Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayi Yojana (PMKSY) in 2015-16 which aims to enhance physical access of water on farm and expand cultivable area under assured irrigation, improve farm water use efficiency, introduce sustainable water conservation practices, etc. During 2016-17, 99 on-going Major/Medium irrigation projects under PMKSY-Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) having ultimate irrigation potential of 76.03 lakh hectares and balance estimated cost of Rs.77,595 crore (Central Assistance Rs.31342.50 crore) have been prioritized in consultation with States, for completion in phases up to December, 2019 along with their Command Area Development & Water Management (CADWM) works. Funding mechanism through NABARD has been approved by the Government for both Central and State share.

Central Government has formulated National Water Policy (NWP), 2012 which inter-alia recommends conservation, promotion and protection of water and highlights the need for augmenting the availability of water through rain water harvesting, direct use of rainfall and other management measures. The NWP, 2012 has been sent to all States/ Union Territories and the concerned Central Ministries for appropriate action.

Under National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation provides technical & financial assistance to States to improve the coverage of safe drinking water in rural areas. With this, the States are required to ensure adequate availability

of potable water in rural areas. The Government has launched Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) on 25 June, 2015 in 500 Mission cities. Water supply is a major focus area under the Mission. Under AMRUT, projects worth Rs. 39,011 crore have been taken up by States/Union Territories in water supply sector which are at different stages of implementation.

Some other initiatives/measures taken by the Central Government for conservation and improvement of availability of ground water are as under:

- Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has prepared a conceptual document titled “Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water in India” during the year 2013 envisaging construction of 1.11 crore Rainwater Harvesting and Artificial Recharge structures in urban and rural areas. The Master Plan has been circulated to all State Governments for implementation.
- CGWB has taken up Aquifer Mapping and Management (NAQUIM) programme from the XII Plan, under the scheme of Ground Water Management and Regulation. Aquifer Mapping is aimed at delineating aquifer disposition and their characterization for preparation of aquifer/area specific ground water management plans.
- The Ministry has circulated a Model Bill to all the States/UTs to enable them to enact suitable ground water legislation for regulation of its development, which includes provision of rain water harvesting. So far, 15 States/UTs have adopted and implemented the ground water legislation on the lines of Model Bill.
- Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has been constituted under Section 3 (3) of the “Environment (Protection) Act, 1986” for the purpose of regulation and control of ground water development and management in the Country. So far, CGWA has notified 162 areas in the country where ground water withdrawal through new abstraction structures is not permitted, except for drinking and domestic uses.

Major and Medium irrigation or multipurpose projects are appraised in Central Water Commission as per the extant Guidelines of MoWR, RD & GR. The appraised projects are considered by the Advisory Committee of MoWR, RD & GR for techno-economic clearance. The details of projects having drinking water component, as accepted by the Advisory Committee of MoWR, RD & GR in last 2 years, are given at **Annexure I**. The additional storages that have been created in the last two years out of 99 priority projects under PMKSY-AIBP are annexed as **Annexure-II**.

ANNEXURE I

Annexure referred to in reply to parts (c) & (d) of Unstarred Question No. †1758 to be answered in Lok Sabha on 20.12.2018 regarding “Scarcity of Water”

The list of projects having drinking water component, as accepted by the Advisory Committee of MoWR, RD & GR in last 2 years

Sr. No.	Meeting of Advisory Committee	Date of Meeting	Name of the Project	State	Type of Project
1	129 th	08.07.2016	Arjun Sahayak Pariyojna	Uttar Pradesh	Major, Revised
2	129 th	08.07.2016	Sardar Sarovar Narmada Project	Gujarat	3 rd RCE, Major
3	129 th	08.07.2016	Damanganga-Pinjal Link Project	Maharashtra	New, Drinking Water
4	129 th	08.07.2016	Bhaunrat Dam Project	Uttar Pradesh	New, Medium
5	132 nd	06.03.2017	Renukaji Dam Project	Himachal Pradesh	Multipurpose
6	135 th	12.03.2018	Parwan Major Multi-Purpose Irrigation Project	Rajasthan	New, Major, Irrigation
7	136 th	06.06.2018	Revised Cost Estimate of Upper Pravara (Nilwander-II) Project	Maharashtra	RCE, Major Irrigation
8	136 th	06.06.2018	Kaleshwaram Project	Telangana	New, Major Irrigation
9	138 th	31.10.2018	Revised Cost Estimate of Ghungshi Barrage Irrigation Project	Maharashtra	RCE, Medium Irrigation

ANNEXURE II

Annexure referred to in reply to parts (c) & (d) of Unstarred Question No. †1758 to be answered in Lok Sabha on 20.12.2018 regarding “Scarcity of Water”

List of projects having dam component completed under 99 priority projects during the last two years				
Sl. No.	Name of State	Name of the project	Storage capacity (MCM)	
			Gross	Live
1	Karnataka	Karanja	7.69	7.32
2	Manipur	Thoubal	176.38	124.58
3	Odisha	Rukura	43.94	38.69
4	Odisha	RET irrigation	67.76	59.64