

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3879
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.01.2019**

THERMAL UTILITIES

3879. SHRI VINCENT H. PALA:

**Will the Minister of POWER
be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the report of Water Resources Institute (WRI), States that more than 70 percent of India's existing thermal utilities are likely to experience an increased level of water competition from agricultural, urban and other industrial demands by 2033, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether diluting the rules on the amount of water that the new plants installed after January 1, 2017, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the total extra water consumption of the new plants from 2017-18?

A N S W E R

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR POWER
AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY**

(SHRI R. K. SINGH)

(a) : The World Resource Institute in one of its Working Paper has stated that more than 70 percent of India's existing thermal utilities are likely to experience an increased level of water competition from agricultural, urban and other industrial demands by 2030. The report also mentioned that India's thermal power sector is very dependent on water and has been suffering from water shortages.

(b) & (c) : Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) notified following new norms for water consumption for Thermal Power Plants on 7th December 2015 and amended vide Notification on 28.06.2018.

- i. All plants with Once Through Cooling (OTC) shall install Cooling Tower (CT) and achieve specific water consumption of 3.5 m³/MWh within 2 years of Notification dated 07.12.2015.

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- ii. **All existing CT based plants shall reduce specific water consumption up-to maximum of 3.5 m³/MWh within a period of 2 years of Notification.**
- iii. **New plants to be installed after 1st January 2017 shall have to meet specific water consumption of 3.0 m³/MWh and achieve zero water discharge.**

The aforesaid Water Consumption Limit shall not be applicable for Thermal Power plants using sea water.

Total Thermal Capacity added during year 2017-18 & 2018-19 (upto November, 2018) is 10039.72 MW and power generated from this capacity during year 2017-18 & 2018-19 (upto November, 2018) is 29777.3 MU. Total water consumed by Thermal Power Plants on per day basis across the country is not monitored by Ministry of Power/Central Electricity Authority.
