

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3122
ANSWERED ON 12.03.2020

PER CAPITA WATER AVAILABILITY

3122. SHRI RAVNEET SINGH BITTU

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the per capita availability of water is constantly decreasing in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, year and State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government is taking any measures to augment the per capita availability of water; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI & SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA)

(a) & (b) Water availability per person is dependent on population of the country and for India, per capita water availability in the country is reducing due to increase in population. The average annual per capita water availability in the years 2001 and 2011 was assessed as 1816 cubic meters and 1545 cubic meters respectively which may further reduce to 1486 cubic meters in the year 2021.

(c) & (d) Water being a State subject, steps for augmentation, conservation and efficient management of water resources 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.

Ministry of Jal Shakti launched Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA), a campaign for water conservation and water security, in water-stressed districts of 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.

Government of India has launched Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) in select 500 cities across the country with focus on development of basic civic amenities in the Mission cities. Under the Mission, projects related to rain water harvesting, rejuvenation of water bodies specifically for drinking water supply, recharging of ground water, etc., can be taken up by the States/UTs to enhance water supply in the Mission cities.

The Government of India has launched Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), which aims at providing functional household tap connections to every rural household by 2024 at the service level of 55 litre per capita per day.

Government of India has approved Atal Bhujal Yojna (Atal Jal), a Central Sector Scheme of estimated cost of Rs.6000 crore, for sustainable management of ground water resources with community participation in water stressed blocks of Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

Some initiatives/measures taken by Central Government to control water depletion and promote rain water harvesting / conservation are available at the URL:

http://mowr.gov.in/sites/default/files/Steps_to_control_water_depletion_Jun2019.pdf