

Period	1st June 2009	30th Sept. 2009	1st June, 2010	30th Sept., 2010	1st June, 2011	30th Sept., 2011
Cumulative live Storage of 81 reservoirs (BCM)	17.424	89.835	21.214	115.227	36.235	131.076
% storage w.r.t. total live storage capacity	11.5	59.2	14.0	75.9	23.9	86

(d) As per the information available from Indian Meteorological Department, the average normal rainfall in India is taken to be about 1196 mm which corresponds to annual precipitation of about 4000 BCM including snowfall. Nearly 75% of this i.e 3000 BCM occurs during the monsoon season confined to 3 to 4 months (June to September) in a year. After accounting for the natural process of evaporation, evapo-transpiration, use by natural vegetation, rainfed agriculture etc., the average annual water availability in the country is estimated as 1869 BCM. It is estimated that owing to topographic, hydrological and other constraints, the utilizable water is 1123 BCM, comprising of 690 BCM of surface water and 433 BCM from ground water resources. The National Commission for Integrated Water Resources Development (NCIWRD) in its report has projected total storage capacity requirement of about 458 BCM.

As per a tentative assessment made by the Central Water Commission, the live storage capacity created in the country is 225 BCM. Apart from it, projects with live storage capacity of 64 BCM are under construction and 108 BCM are under consideration for construction by the various State Governments.

Availability of natural water

†767. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, in view of existing situation of water availability in the country, a proposal to implement 'rationing' of water in the country has been moved by the Planning Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether it is also a fact that even though availability of natural water is enough in the country, water availability for use is very low; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) and (b) In the Approach Paper to the Twelfth Five Year Plan, the Planning Commission has emphasised that the efficient use of water resources is the solution for better management of water resources and to meet the additional water demand from agriculture and other sectors. It also details about the water pricing for various uses and regulatory measures to ration water to different users for optimum water use.

(c) and (d) The average annual precipitation in India is estimated to be about 4,000 Billion Cubic Meters (BCM). After accounting for evaporation and evapo-transpiration, the average annual water availability has been assessed as 1869 BCM. It is estimated that owing to topographic, hydrological and other constraints, the utilizable water is 1123 BCM, which comprises of 690 BCM of surface water and 433 BCM of replenishable ground water resources. On the basis of the population indicated in 2011 census, the per capita water availability works out to be about 1,545 cubic meter per year making India a water stressed country.

Water is a State subject and it is the primary responsibility of the State Governments to take necessary measures to develop and manage water resources projects. However, Government of India provides technical and financial assistance to State Governments to encourage sustainable development and efficient management of water resources through various schemes and programmes. Central assistance is provided to States under various schemes/ programmes of Ministry of Water Resources namely "Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) for major & medium irrigation projects", "AIBP for minor irrigation projects", "Command Area Development and Water Management (CAD&WM) Programme" and "Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies", etc.

Presence of heavy metals in ground water

768. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state: