

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2114  
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2000  
WATER MANAGEMENT  
SANJAY PASWAN

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Gambheer jal sankat ki oar badhta ja raha hai Bharat" appearing in the 'Navbharat Times' on January 10, 2000;
- (b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (d) the measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) to (d) No Sir, no such news item has been reported in the Mahanagar Edition of "Navbharat Times" dated 10.1.2000. However, the water availability in the country remains more or less fixed according to the natural hydrologic cycle. The per capita water availability is reducing progressively owing to increasing population. The average annual per capita water availability which is estimated to be about 1900 Cu. m. in 2000 AD may come down to 1350 Cu. m. by 2025 AD at national level, which is well above the limit of 1000 Cu. m. per capita per annum, considered as scarcity condition. Therefore, even by the end of 2025 A.D., India is not likely to face water scarcity situation at the national level, though uneven water availability may cause local water scarcity in some parts of the country. The Government has initiated various measures like Command Area Development Programme and Water Resources Consolidation Projects to improve efficiency of irrigation water use in the country.