

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2492
ANSWERED ON:17.03.2008
AVAILABILITY OF WATER
Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the present water availability in the country;
- (b) whether the Government has identified the new water resources and water scarcity regions in the country; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) to (c) The average annual precipitation is estimated as 4000 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) in the country. After accounting for the natural process of evaporation etc., the average annual water availability in the country is assessed as 1869 BCM. Owing to topographic, hydrological and other constraints, the utilizable water is assessed as 1123 BCM. With a view to augment the utilizable water resources, various measures such as utilization of surplus flood water by transfer to water short area through inter-linking of rivers, rainwater harvesting and ground water recharge have been envisaged.