

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:253  
ANSWERED ON:17.03.2008  
SHORTAGE OF WATER FOR IRRIGATION  
Siddeswara Shri Gowdar Mallikarjunappa

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

(a) the names of the States facing shortage of water for irrigation during the last three years and the extent to which the shortage has been found; and

(b) the remedial action taken to improve irrigation facilities in the affected areas?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ)

(a) & (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS(a) & (b) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.253 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 17.03.2008 REGARDING SHORTAGE OF WATER FOR IRRIGATION.

(a) & (b) For the country as a whole, the monsoon rainfall during the last three years i.e. in the years 2005, 2006 and 2007 were observed to be 99%, 99% and 105% of the long period average. However, deficient rainfall was observed in (a) Jharkhand, Bihar, Assam & Meghalaya and Nagaland, Mizoram, Manipur & Tripura during 2005 (b) Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam & Meghalaya and Nagaland, Mizoram, Manipur & Tripura, West Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Chandigarh & Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Uttranchal, East Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry during 2006, and (c) West Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Chandigarh & Delhi, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, East Madhya Pradesh and Arunachal Pradesh during 2007. However, for the country as a whole, overall live storage in the 81 monitored reservoirs at the end of the monsoon period of 2005, 2006 and 2007 were 115%, 129% and 119% respectively of the average of the last 10 years.

With a view to optimally utilize the available resources, several measures for development and management of water resources are undertaken by the respective State Governments which include creation of storages, restoration of water bodies, rain water harvesting, artificial recharge to ground water and adoption of better management practices etc. Storage capacity of about 225 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) has been created so far. As per present assessment, the total estimated storage capacity of the various projects under construction is about 64 BCM. Further, the State Governments have identified various other schemes for investigation and planning and the estimated storage for such schemes is about 108 BCM. Major and medium irrigation projects and minor irrigation schemes (both surface and ground water) are conceived, planned and implemented by the respective State Governments. Government of India also provides assistance/ grants to the State Governments through various schemes/programmes, such as Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP); Command Area Development and Water Management (CADWM) Programme; National Project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies directly linked to Agriculture. The Government of India have formulated a National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Water Resources Development which comprises two components viz.

(i) Peninsular Rivers Development and

(ii) Himalayan Rivers Development. The NPP envisages construction of storages on various river systems along with interlinking canal systems to transfer water from water surplus areas to water deficit regions.