

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3674
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2010
NON-UTILISATION OF RAIN WATER
Badal Harsimrat Kaur

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that billions cusecs of rain water goes waste due to non-utilization every year;
- (b) if so, the estimated annual loss of water; and
- (c) the details of projects the Government has launched so far in this connection?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES(SHRI VINCENT H. PALA)

(a) & (b) As per the information available from India Meteorological Department, the normal annual rainfall in the country is about 1196 millimeters (mm). The total of average annual rainfall, snowfall and glacier melt in volumetric term works out to about 4000 billion cubic meters (BCM). However, after accounting for the evaporation and evapo-transpiration, the water availability has been assessed as 1869 BCM. Even this available water cannot be fully utilized due to topographical constraints and hydrological features and utilizable water has been estimated to be about 1123 BCM comprising 690 BCM of surface water and 433 BCM of replenishable ground water. Rest of the water could be considered to be flowing down to sea.

(c) A number of water resources projects for conservation of water and its diversion for various uses are undertaken by respective State Governments.

Government of India provides technical and financial assistance to State Governments with a view to encourage conservation, sustainable development and efficient management of water resources through various scheme and programme. Central assistance is provided to States under various schemes/programmes of Ministry of Water Resources namely " Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP)", "Command Area Development and water Management Programme (CAD &WM)", and "Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies'. Ministry of Water Resources also encourage measures for sustainability of water resources particularly ground water resources. Demonstrative schemes for rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge to ground water have been taken up by Central Ground Water Board. The scheme for "Artificial Recharge of Ground Water through Dugwells" was also under implementation in seven States namely Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu.