

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:555
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2011
RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT
Mahant Dr. Charan Das

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the quantum of flowing water in a river includes its various purposes such as drinking water, water for irrigation and industrial use, etc;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is necessary to maintain the minimum flow of water in the river; and
- (d) if so, the details of the criteria for determining the various uses of available water while constructing a water body?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Various uses of water are met from both surface and ground water depending upon the availability of resources, topography etc. Utilizable surface water resources of various river basins of India is presented in the annexure.

(c) & (d) The National Water Policy 2002 states that minimum flow should be ensured in the perennial streams for maintaining ecology and social considerations.

Water being a State subject, the schemes for water resources development and management are conceived, planned and implemented by the respective State Governments. The National Water Policy, however, accords highest water allocation priority to drinking water followed by irrigation, hydro-power, ecology etc. in the planning and operation of water resources system.