

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2833  
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2011  
WATER SUPPLY  
Choudhary Shri Bhudeo

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

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the gap between availability and usage of water at present;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to bridge the gap?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) Central Water Commission, Ministry of Water Resources had assessed, in 1993, average annual availability of water in the country as 1869 Billion Cubic Meters. The actual water utilized in current year has not been assessed. However, the National Commission on Integrated Water Resources Development (NCIWRD) appointed by the Government of India, in its report in 1999, has estimated total water requirement for the year 2010 as 710 Billion Cubic Meters.

(c) With a view to meet the growing demand for water, various measures are taken by the respective State Governments for bringing the available water resources within the category of utilizable resources to the maximum possible extent. 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, rainwater harvesting, artificial recharge to ground water, adoption of better management practices etc. In addition to this large number of minor storage projects, diversion structures functioning as run of river schemes, minor irrigation schemes, utilizing surface and ground water also cater to the water requirement. State Governments conceive, plan and implement major, medium and minor schemes (both surface and ground water) for utilization of water resources. Government of India provides Central Assistance to the State Governments through various schemes/programmes, such as Accelerated Irrigation benefits Programmes (AIBP); Command Area Development and Water Management (CAD & WM); Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies, etc.