

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1496

ANSWERED ON:22.03.2012

SHORTAGE OF WATER

Dhruvanarayana Shri R. ;Muttamwar Shri Vilas Baburao;Pandey Shri Ravindra Kumar;Sainuji Shri Kowase Marotrao;Sharma Shri Jagdish

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the growing water shortage carries economic risks and if so, details thereof;
- (b) the details regarding parts in the country where water shortage is being reported and if so, reasons therefor;
- (c) whether infrastructure facilities for utilization of water in the North-Eastern parts of the country are not appreciable despite the abundance of water resources, and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to announce any special package to overcome the scarcity; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, especially for Jharkhand?

Answer

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

(a) As per present assessment, the average annual utilizable water is 1123 BCM against the projected demand of 1180 BCM by the year 2050 by the National Commission for Integrated Water Resources Development. The large temporal and spatial variability in availability of water and inadequate storage capacity increases the water stress situation throughout the country, which has implications on economic growth.

(b) Water availability in India is dependent on the South-West and North-East monsoons with rainfall varying from over 10,000 mm in North East to less than 100 mm in North West parts.

(c) With a view to meet the growing demand for water, several measures for development and management of water resources are undertaken by the respective State Governments, which inter-alia, include creation of storages, restoration of water bodies, rainwater harvesting, artificial recharge to ground water, adoption of better management practices etc. The Government of India provides Central Assistance to the State Governments through various schemes / programmes.

North Eastern States have been classified as a 'special category States' making them eligible for higher Central assistance.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.