

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6861
ANSWERED ON:17.05.2012
INEQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF WATER
Gowda Shri D.B. Chandre

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that there is large scale inequitable distribution of water in various parts of the country particularly in Karnataka;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the action taken by the Government thereon;
- (c) whether the Government has carried out any district-wise survey in the country including in the States of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu to find out per capita availability of water during the last three years;
- (d) if so, the outcome of such survey and the follow up action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (e) whether the Government has formulated any perspective plan to identify new water resources in the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Water availability in India is dependent on the South – West and North-East monsoons with rainfall varying from 10,000 mm in the North East to less than 100 mm in North West region. Within Karnataka also, there is a large variation in the rainfall, with higher rainfall in the Western Ghats and lower rainfall towards the eastern plains. Along the coastal Dakshina Kannada District, the normal rainfall is about 4000 mm and in the drought prone districts of Bijapur, Raichur, Bellary etc., the rainfall is of the order of 500 mm to 600 mm.

Several steps for augmentation, conservation and efficient management of water resources are taken up by the respective State Governments. In order to supplement the efforts of the State Governments, Government of India provides technical and financial assistance to State Governments to encourage sustainable development and efficient management of water resources through various schemes and programmes.

(c) & (d) No, Madam. No assessment of State wise and district wise availability of surface water has been made so far.

(e) & (f) The National Water Policy, 2002 inter alia recommends that non-conventional methods for utilisation of water such as through inter-basin transfers, artificial recharge of ground water and desalination of brackish or sea water as well as traditional water conservation practices like rainwater harvesting, including roof-top rainwater harvesting, need to be practiced to further increase the utilisable water resources. Promotion of frontier research and development, in a focused manner, for these techniques is necessary.