

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:260
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2012
IMPLEMENTATION OF WATER POLICY
Singh Shri Ravneet

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the various water policies formulated earlier by the Central Government have been implemented in letter and spirit by the State Governments;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of water bodies in the country at present, alongwith the annual capacity of such water resources;
- (d) whether any assessment of the water resources available and required in the urban and rural areas has been made; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) National Water Policy is finalised and adopted by National Water Resources Council. Several States have formulated their State Water Policies, by and large as per the provisions of National Water Policy. The States implement these policies as per their requirement and priorities.

(c) The third Minor Irrigation Census has counted 5.56 lakh tanks and storages in India. The storage capacity of these tanks and storages was not surveyed.

(d) & (e) The average annual water availability for the country has been assessed as 1869 billion cubic meters (BCM). Due to topographic, hydrological and other constraints, the utilizable water has been estimated to be about 1123 BCM comprising 690 BCM of surface water and 433 BCM of replenishable ground water. The National Commission for Integrated Water Resources Development (NCIWRD), in its report in 1999, had assessed that the annual water requirement by the year 2025 and 2050 will be about 843 BCM and 1180 BCM respectively.