

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:170
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2012
PER CAPITA AVAILABILITY OF WATER
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Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the recent census shows that the per capita availability of water for a household has reduced with increase in number of households from 24.1 crore in 2001 to 33.1 crore in 2011;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken to meet this water crisis?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b) The per capita water availability in the country as a whole is reducing progressively due to increase in population. The average annual per capita availability of water in the country, taking into consideration the population of the country as per the 2001 census, was 1816 cubic meters which reduced to 1545 cubic meters as per the 2011 census.

(c) Several steps for augmentation, conservation and efficient management to ensure sustainability of water resources are undertaken 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. The Government of India has also launched National Water Mission with main objective as "conservation of water, minimizing wastage and ensuring its more equitable distribution both across and within States through integrated water resources development and management".