

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:400

ANSWERED ON:20.12.2012

LOSS OF WATER

Badal Harsimrat Kaur;Rana Shri Jagdish Singh

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has made any assessment to quantify the loss caused by perennial floods and rains in the country every year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has made any assessment regarding the quantity of rain water that goes waste in the country every year;
- (d) if so, whether the Government plans to contain losses due to floods and wastage of precious water by channelising it to water-scarce areas; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION No.400 TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.12.2012 REGARDING "LOSS OF WATER" RAISED BY SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL AND SHRI JAGDISH SINGH RANA

(a) & (b) Yes Madam. On the basis of flood damage reported by various State Governments / Union Territories for the period from 1953 to 2011, the average annual losses caused by floods in the country have been assessed as under :

- (i) Area affected = 7.225 mha.
- (ii) Population affected = 32.43 millions
- (iii) Human lives lost = 1653 nos.
- (iv) Cattle lost = 96593 nos.
- (v) Cropped Area affected = 3.789 mha
- (vi) Damage to crops = Rs. 1118.81 crore
- (vii) Houses Damaged = 1254954 nos.
- (viii) Value of houses damaged = Rs.565.65 crore0.
- (ix) Damage to public utilities = Rs. 1867.85 crore

Total of average annual damage
to crops, houses and public utilities = Rs. 3612.12 crore

(c) as per the present assessment, the annual water availability in the country is 1869 BCM. Further, It has been estimated in 2009 by Central Water Commission and Ground Water Board that the utilization of surface and ground water in the country is 450BCM and 243 BCM respectively. The rest of the water could be considered as flowing down to sea.

(d) & (e) Yes Madam. The Government has identified river basins with surplus water from where transfer could be made to water scarce basins. The National Water Development Agency has been given the responsibility for making detailed project reports for these links. Besides this, the Government encourages the setting up of more storage projects to mitigate floods and conserve water.