

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1770  
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2013  
AVAILABILITY OF WATER FOR IRRIGATION  
Sukur Shri Jadhav Baliram

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the availability of water for irrigation has declined in the country due to irregular rainfall during last three years;
- (b) if so, the names of areas most affected in the States;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to take steps for making water available for these areas during the current year; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b) As per information received from India Meteorological Department, out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, 6 sub-divisions in 2010, 6 in 2011 and 13 in 2012 received deficient rainfall as compared to their respective long term normal rainfall. This has affected total availability of water for various uses, including irrigation, in these regions. A statement indicating the details of meteorological sub-division wise annual rainfall received during the years 2010, 2011 and 2012 is at Annex.

(c) & (d) Water being a state subject several measures for increasing the storage capacity are taken up by the State Governments viz construction of dams, check dams and farm ponds. Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments for increasing storage capacity by rendering technical and financial assistance through programmes like Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme and Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies.