

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:99
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2013
WATER BODIES IN THE COUNTRY
Pandey Shri Ravindra Kumar

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of water bodies in the country and their annual capacity;
- (b) whether the Government has made any assessment with regard to the available water resources and demand of water in urban and rural areas; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the follow-up steps proposed to be taken thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER FOR WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) According to 4th Minor Irrigation census conducted by Ministry of Water Resources with reference year 2006-07, the total number of water bodies used for irrigation in the country was 5.23816 lakh with a storage capacity of about 8614.205591 Million Cubic Meter (MCM).

(b) & (c) Yes, Madam. As per Working Group Report for Major & Medium Irrigation Projects for XIth Plan set up by Planning Commission, the available water resources have been assessed to be about 1869 BCM. However, in view of the physiographical and topographical features, the utilizable water, both for urban and rural areas, is assessed as 1121 Billion Cubic Meter (BCM), comprising of 690 BCM of Surface water and 431 BCM of replenishable groundwater. By 2050, the annual water demand as assessed by Nation Commission on Integrated Water Resources Development (NCWRS), will be around 1180 BCM including both for urban and rural areas.

Government of India provides technical and financial assistance to the State Government to encourage sustainable development and efficient management of water resources through various schemes and programmes namely, Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) and Repair, Renovation & Restoration (RRR) of water bodies etc.