

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2315  
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2006  
STORAGE OF WATER  
Joshi Shri Pralhad Venkatesh

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

- (a) the percentage of water stored during each of the last three years in the country;
- (b) the total rainfall in the country in millimeter recorded during the said period and the percentage/quantity of water stored for irrigation and other purposes, separately;
- (c) whether the Government proposes any specific plans to prevent wastage of water; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ)

- (a) The Ministry of Water Resources is monitoring the status of storage of 76 important reservoirs with total designed live storage capacity of 133.02 billion cubic metre (BCM) which is 62% of the total live storage capacity created in the country. Filling of the reservoir from the inflows and the releases of water from reservoir for various purposes is a continuous process. However, the sum total of the maximum storage attained in various reservoirs was about 65%, 72% and 87% of the designed live storage capacity in the years 2003, 2004 and 2005 respectively.
- (b) The average annual rainfall recorded during the years 2003, 2004 and 2005 are 1242.8, 1085.9 and 1208.1 millimeters respectively. Separate storage for purposes is not earmarked in the reservoirs. The stored water is released for various purposes as per the priorities and in accordance with guidelines for reservoirs regulations.
- (c)&(d) With a view to optimally utilize the available resources, several measures for development and management of water resources are undertaken by the respective State Governments which include creation of storages, restoration of water bodies, rain water harvesting, artificial recharge to ground water and adoption of better management practices etc. State Governments conceive, plan and implement major medium & minor schemes for utilization of water resources. Storage capacity of about 213 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) has been created so far. As per present assessment, the total estimated storage capacity of the various projects under construction is about 76 BCM. Further, the State Governments have identified various other schemes for investigation and planning and the estimated storage for such schemes is about 108 BCM.