

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:201
ANSWERED ON:19.07.2004
UNUTILISED WATER
Shaheen Shri Abdul Rashid

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several million gallons of unutilised water gets drained into rivers and seas;
- (b) if so, the facts in this regard;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government for proper utilisation of wasted water; and
- (d) the success achieved so far in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. +201 TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.7.2004 IN LOK SABHA REGARDING UNUTILISED WATER.

(a) & (b) The average annual precipitation including snowfall is 4000 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) in the country and the average annual water availability of the country is assessed at 1869 BCM. The utilisable water resources is assessed as 1122 BCM (690 BCM of surface water and 432 BCM of replenishable ground water). 605 BCM of water is being utilised for diverse purposes. Rest of the water could be considered to be flowing down to rivers and seas.

(c) The water resources is presently being utilised for meeting the requirement for various purposes through development of surface as well as ground water. A number of surface and ground water schemes are under implementation and at various stages of planning & investigation. The Government also envisages schemes for rainwater harvesting and ground water recharge with a view to conserve more water.

(d) So far, 605 BCM of water is being utilised for diverse purposes out of which about 83% is for irrigation. The ultimate irrigation potential has been assessed as 139.9 Million Hectare (Mha) and the potential created by the end of the Ninth Five Year Plan through various major, medium & minor (surface & ground water) projects is 93.95 Mha.