

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:697  
ANSWERED ON:08.07.2009  
PER CAPITA AVAILABILITY OF WATER  
Dubey Shri Nishikant

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that there is a large scale inequitable distribution of water in various parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the action taken by the Government;
- (c) whether the Government has carried out any district-wise survey in the country including the State of Jharkhand to find out per capita availability of water during the last three years;
- (d) if so, the outcome of such survey and follow up action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (e) whether Government has formulated any perspective plan to identify new water resources in the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA)

(a) & (b) There is considerable variation in rainfall and hence water availability in various parts of the country. India Meteorological Department (IMD) has informed that the annual average normal rainfall as 1196.4 millimetre for the country as a whole. As per the information provided by IMD, there is considerable variation in the annual average normal rainfall of various meteorological sub-divisions varying from 297.0 millimetre for West Rajasthan to 3613.2 millimetre for Coastal Karnataka. Government of India has prepared National Perspective Plan for optimal utilization of the water resources particularly through diversion of surplus flood water to deficient areas. Various measures have also been undertaken by the State Governments and Government of India for conservation of water which inter-alia include storage of water in reservoir over the ground and rainwater harvesting and ground water recharge.

(c) Ministry of Water Resources has not carried out any specific district-wise survey to find out 'per capita availability of water' during the last three years.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) & (f) National Perspective Plan envisages various links to divert surplus flood water to water deficient areas. Based on preliminary studies, 30 links have been identified and National Water Development Agency has been assigned the responsibility of preparation of feasibility report and detailed project report for the same.