

Amman to receive slight increase in summer water supply

AMMAN - The Jordan Water Company (Miyahuna) has allocated 135 million cubic metres (mcm) of water for the capital this summer, a 3.8 per cent increase from last year, according to officials.

The company said it increased water allocations from 130mcm in 2009 to 135mcm this year in response to population growth and to ensure "smooth water distribution" during summer.

In a press conference yesterday, Miyahuna acting Executive Director Saad Abu Hammour said the increased water allocation seeks to meet the surging demand during the hot summer months and when thousands of Jordanian expatriates return home.

Annual per capita water distribution in Jordan stands at 150 cubic metres, well below the international water poverty line of 1,000 cubic metres.

Limited water resources in Jordan, the fourth most water deprived nation in the world, coupled with low rainfall, a booming economy and a growing population is the reason behind the low water per capita, according to Miyahuna.

A total of 40 per cent of Amman's drinking water needs is provided from Zai Water Treatment Plant, which treats the water from the 110-kilometre King Abdullah Canal in the Jordan Valley.

The capital's second water source is the Zara Maeen Water Treatment Plant, which supplies the capital with 25 per cent of its water needs, while the rest is provided from several wells in Amman, Mafraq, Madaba, Karak and Zarqa.