

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

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**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 583**

ANSWERED ON 12.12.2022

**WATER STRESS MANAGEMENT**

583 SHRI JAWHAR SIRCAR

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is addressing the international concern that India is among the top 17 countries facing the highest level of water stress even though India receives the maximum annual rainfall;
- (b) the steps which taken during the last five years in this regard; and
- (c) the steps specifically being taken in the nine worst water stressed States in the IndoGangetic plain?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) The average annual water availability of any region or country is largely dependent upon hydro-meteorological and geological factors. However, water availability per person is dependent on population of a country. The per capita water availability in the country is reducing due to increase in population. Due to high temporal and spatial variation of precipitation, the water availability in many regions of the country is below the national average and maybe facing water stress / scarce conditions.

(b) & (c) Water being a State subject, steps for augmentation, conservation and efficient management of water resources are primarily undertaken by the respective State Governments. In order to supplement the efforts of the State Governments, Central Government provides technical and financial assistance to them through various schemes and programmes.

Government of India, in partnership with State, is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) to make provision of tap water supply to every rural household of the country by 2024.

Government of India has launched AMRUT 2.0 on 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2021, covering all the statutory towns of the country to ensure universal coverage of water supply & make cities 'water secure'.

To ensure optimum utilization of water, Government of India has been implementing Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojna (PMKSY) from 2015-16 onwards. Under PMKSY-Accelerated Irrigation Benefit

Programme (AIBP), 99 ongoing major/medium irrigation projects were prioritized during 2016-17, in consultation with States. Out of these projects, AIBP works of 50 prioritized projects have been reported to be completed. During 2016-17 to 2021-2022, total Central Assistance (CA) and State Share (loan through NABARD) of Rs.13,754 crore and Rs.28,423 crore respectively have been released for these projects. An additional irrigation potential of 24.35 lakh hectare has been reported to be created by these projects in the country, during 2016-17 to 2021-2022. The extension of PMKSY for the period 2021-22 to 2025-26 has been approved by Government of India, with an overall outlay of Rs. 93,068.56 crore.

Besides PMKSY-AIBP, Central Assistance are also being provided under Special Package for Maharashtra, Renukaji, Lakhwar, Shahpur Kandi and Polavaram National Projects and Relining of Rajasthan Feeder and Sirhind Feeder of Punjab. During 2018-19 to 2021-22, an irrigation potential of 1.35 lakh hectare has been created through Special Package for Maharashtra and 0.77 lakh hectare irrigation potential has been stabilized by Rajasthan Feeder and Sirhind Feeder of Punjab.

The Command Area Development and Water Management (CADWM) Programme has been brought under PMKSY - Har Khet Ko Pani from 2015-16 onwards. The main objective of taking up CAD works is to enhance utilisation of irrigation potential created, and improve agriculture production on a sustainable basis through Participatory Irrigation Management (PIM). During FY 2016-17 to FY 2021-22, the CA amounting to Rs 2855.63 crore has been released for CADWM projects and the expenditure reported by the States is Rs 5620 crore with physical progress in CCA of 16.41 lakh ha.

Atal Bhujal Yojana, a World Bank aided Central Sector Scheme of the Government of India with an outlay of Rs 6000 crore, is being implemented with a focus on community participation and demand side interventions for sustainable ground water management in identified water stressed areas. The scheme is being taken up in seven states, viz. Haryana, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

The Bureau of Water Use Efficiency (BWUE) has been set up for promotion, regulation and control of efficient use of water in irrigation, industrial and domestic sector. The Bureau will be a facilitator for promotion of improving water use efficiency across various sectors namely irrigation, drinking water supply, power generation, industries, etc. in the country.

“Sahi Fasal” campaign was launched to nudge farmers in the water stressed areas to grow crops which are not water intensive, but use water very efficiently; and are economically remunerative; are healthy and nutritious; suited to the agro-climatic-hydro characteristics of the area; and are environmentally friendly.

The Mission Amrit Sarovar was launched on National Panchayati Raj Day on 24<sup>th</sup> April, 2022 as a part of celebration of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav with an objective to conserve water for future. The Mission is aimed at developing and rejuvenating 75 water bodies in each district of the country.

Jal Shakti Abhiyan-I (JSA-I) was conducted in 2019 in 1592 blocks out of 2836 blocks in 256 water stressed districts of the country and was expanded as “Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain” (JSA:CTR) in 2021 with the theme “Catch the Rain – Where it Falls When it Falls” to cover all the blocks of all districts (rural as well as urban areas) across the country. “Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain” (JSA:CTR) -2022 campaign, the third in the series of JSAs, has been launched on 29.3.2022 to cover all the blocks of all districts (rural as well as urban areas) across the country. The focused interventions of the campaign include (1) water conservation and rainwater harvesting (2) enumerating, geo-tagging & making inventory of all water bodies; preparation of scientific plans for water conservation based on it (3) Setting up of Jal Shakti Kendras in all districts (4) intensive afforestation and (5) awareness generation.

The important steps taken by the Central Government to control water depletion and promote rain water harvesting/conservation are available at the URL: [http://jalshakti-dowr.gov.in/sites/default/files/Steps%20taken%20by%20the%20Central%20Govt%20for%20water\\_depletion\\_july2022.pdf](http://jalshakti-dowr.gov.in/sites/default/files/Steps%20taken%20by%20the%20Central%20Govt%20for%20water_depletion_july2022.pdf)

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