

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 427

ANSWERED ON 24.07.2023

STRATEGY FOR WATER MANAGEMENT

427. SMT. SANGEETA YADAV

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that rising heat is breaking new records every year;
- (b) if so, whether Government has chalked out any strategy for water management in the age of Climate change;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) steps taken to check depletion of surface water structures that are driving up the use of water and whether it is due to rising heat?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) No, Sir. The annual mean land surface air temperature averaged over India during 2022 was +0.51°C above the long-term average (1981-2010 period) and was the fifth warmest year on record since nationwide records commenced in 1901. However, this is lower than the highest warming observed over India during 2016 (anomaly of +0.71°C) but higher than the previous year 2021 (anomaly of +0.44°C).

(b) & (c) National Water Mission (NWM) is one of the eight Missions constituted under National Action Plan on Climate Change. One of the identified goals of NWM is “assessment of impact of climate change on water resource.” The strategies identified for achieving the goal include: (a) Research and studies on all aspects related to impact of climate change on water resources including quality aspects of water resources including water storage, flooding, drought, water quality and public health with active collaboration of all research organizations working in the area of climate change as per the guidelines mandated by Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); (b) Projection of the impact of climate change on water resources as per the guidelines mandated by IPCC, NDCs and SDGs; and (c) Improvement in water governance for mitigation of impact of climate change on water resources.

(d) Rising heat is not the only factor responsible for depletion of surface water structures. The government has taken efforts through convergence of various Central and State Governments’ programmes, schemes, policies and other initiatives to check depletion of surface water structures. Central Government’s major initiatives are Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Mission Amrit Sarovar, National Water Policy, Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) & AMRUT 2.0, River Catchment/Basin Management etc. Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA) was launched in the year 2019 in 256 districts of the country which was later implemented across the country as “Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain” (JSA: CTR) in 2021 and has become an annual feature. The fourth in the series of abhiyans, JSA: CTR 2023 has been launched on 04.03.2023 with the theme “Source Sustainability for Drinking Water”. The campaign covers all rural and urban areas of all districts (all blocks and municipalities) across the country with the special focus on 150 water stressed districts.
