

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 246

ANSWERED ON 05.02.2024

ATAL BHUJAL YOJANA

246. SHRI IRANNA KADADI

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

- (a) whether any specific measures are being taken under Atal Bhujal Yojana to improve the efficiency of groundwater use in agriculture in Belagavi Parliamentary Constituency and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any steps have been taken to improve and/or report prepared for examining the deteriorated ground water quality in the Belagavi Parliamentary Constituency;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether any special financial help is also provided to Gram Panchayats of Belagavi Parliamentary Constituency under the above mentioned scheme through the State Government; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the quantum of funds released thereto?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) The Belagavi Parliamentary Constituency has 26 Gram panchayats of Ramdurg block which come under Atal Bhujal Yojana. The Scheme is focusing on demand side management of ground water by bringing changes in community behaviour. Gram Panchayat wise Water Security Plans having details about water budget and proposed demand and supply side interventions have already been prepared and are being executed through convergence of ongoing Central / State Schemes.

In order to improve efficiency of ground water use in agriculture, an area of around 3806 Ha has been covered under micro irrigation in these gram panchayats under Atal Bhujal Yojana.

(b) & (c) Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) generates ground water quality data of the country including Belagavi district on a regional scale as part of its ground water quality monitoring program and various scientific studies. CGWB shares these data on ground water quality to the respective State Government for making policy and implementation. The ground water quality report of Karnataka, prepared by CGWB, can be seen through the link:

<https://cgwb.gov.in/cgwbpm/public/uploads/documents/1706797421273160673file.pdf>

As per the ground water quality analysis of sample collected during May 2022, Salinity, Chloride, Nitrate and Uranium beyond permissible limits (as per BIS Standard for Drinking Water) for human consumption have been reported in parts of Belagavi district. The number and percentage of sample are given below:

| Salinity (EC) (EC: Electrical Conductivity) (>3000 ms/cm) | Chloride (>1000 mg/L) | Fluoride (> 1.5 mg/L) | Nitrate (> 45 mg/L) | Uranium (>0.03 mg/L) |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 4.8% (4 of 84 samples) | 2.4% (2 of 84 samples) | All samples are within permissible limit) | 38.1% (32 of 84 samples) | 26.2% (22 of 84 samples) |

Water being a State subject, the aspects related to water resources as well as its quality are studied, planned, funded and executed by the State Governments themselves as per their own resources and priorities. Role of Government of India is limited to being catalytic, providing technical support and, in some cases partial financial assistance in terms with the existing schemes being implemented by the Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation. However, some of the important measures taken by Central Government are –

- Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) is being implemented, in partnership with States, since August, 2019, to provide potable tap water supply of prescribed quality and on regular & long-term basis to every rural household in the country. Under JJM, while planning water supply schemes to provide tap water supply to house-holds, priority is given to quality-affected habitations. While allocating the funds to States/ UTs in a particular financial year, 10% weightage is given to the population residing in habitations affected by chemical contaminants. As a short term measure, States/ UTs have also been advised to install community water purification plants (CWPPs) in quality affected habitations, to provide potable water to every household at the rate of 8–10 litre per capita per day (lpcd) to meet their drinking and cooking requirements.
- Master Plan for Artificial Recharge – Artificial Recharge is one of the method to reduce the contamination of ground water and enhance the ground water resource availability. The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has prepared a conceptual document on ‘Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water’ in 2020 for entire Karnataka including Belagavi District. As per the Master plan, in rural areas of Belagavi district, 741 percolation tanks, 3700 check dams/cement plugs and 22 sub-surface dykes (SSD)/check dam cum SSD are proposed in the identified areas. It will be having recharge potential of 825.82 MCM to augment ground water resources. The Master Plan for the State has been shared with State Government agencies for planning and implementation at appropriate levels.
- Various IEC activities on ground water management including ground water quality issues have been conducted in Belagavi district under Atal Bhujal Yojana and by CGWB. These include awareness meetings, rallies, public announcements, kalajattas, painting, essay and debate competitions for school children etc.

(d) & (e) An incentive amount of around Rs. 13.77 crore has been provided to various line departments by the State Government under the Atal Bhujal Yojana for implementation of interventions proposed in the Water Security Plans of these gram panchayats.