

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1200

ANSWERED ON 10.03.2025

WATER SCARCITY IN THE COUNTRY

1200. SHRI BABUBHAI JESANGBHAI DESAI

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

- (a) steps taken by Government to address the growing concerns over water scarcity in various parts of the country, especially in drought-prone regions during the last three years;
- (b) quantum of funds sanctioned and utilized in drought prone regions during the last three years district-wise and State-wise; and
- (c) budget provided during year 2025-26 by Government to outline specific initiatives for the promotion of water conservation practices, including rainwater harvesting and the restoration of traditional water bodies?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI**

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

**(a) to (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, Union Government provides technical and financial assistance to them through various schemes and programmes.

Government of India is implementing Atal Bhujal Yojana, a Central Sector Scheme from 01.04.2020 in identified water stressed areas of 8203 Gram Panchayats under 229 blocks in 80 districts of Seven States viz. Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh with an aim to arrest decline in ground water level through community led sustainable groundwater management.

Gram Panchayat-wise-Water Security Plans having details about proposed demand side interventions such as micro-irrigation, crop diversification, use of underground pipelines etc., and supply side interventions including Rain Water Harvesting Structures such as check dams, farm ponds, recharge shafts and other artificial recharge/water conservation structures are prepared and executed through convergence of ongoing schemes. BE 2025-26 of Atal Bhujal Yojana is Rs.1780.40 Crore. Funds sanctioned and utilized by the States since the inception of scheme:

(as on 02.03.2025) (In Rs. Crore)

S. No.	State	Funds released			Total Expenditure		
		IS&CB	Incentive	Total	IS&CB	Incentive	Total
1	Gujarat	124.34	397.95	522.28	124.34	322.05	446.38
2	Haryana	114.13	615.37	729.50	114.13	436.20	550.33
3	Karnataka	88.40	731.11	819.51	88.40	658.25	746.65
4	Madhya Pradesh	59.30	121.68	180.97	59.30	116.27	175.56

5	Maharashtra	76.26	430.35	506.61	76.26	429.90	506.16
6	Rajasthan	66.85	322.68	389.53	65.99	304.68	370.67
7	Uttar Pradesh	47.59	150.94	198.53	47.59	129.65	177.24
<b>Total</b>		<b>576.86</b>	<b>2,770.08</b>	<b>3,346.93</b>	<b>576.00</b>	<b>2,397.00</b>	<b>2,972.99</b>

#### IS&CB – Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building

In the arid regions of NW part of India, Rajasthan, under Aquifer Rejuvenation of GWMR Scheme during EFC 2021-26, demonstrative project on Artificial Recharge to Groundwater is being implemented by CGWB in different phases in Jodhpur, Jaisalmer, Sikar, Alwar districts of water shortage areas. The project includes construction of various water conservation structures like Check dams, Anicut, percolation tanks, etc. Under Aquifer Rejuvenation GWMR Scheme, a total of 225 Cr has been allocated during EFC 2021-26, out of which 174 Cr has been earmarked for artificial recharge to groundwater in the arid regions of NW parts of India, Rajasthan under different phases of scheme.

Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has completed the National Aquifer Mapping (NAQUIM) Project in the entire mappable area of about 25 Lakh sq. km in the country. The Aquifer maps and management plans have been prepared and shared with the respective State agencies for implementation. The management plans include various water conservation measures through recharge structures.

PMKSY, the flagship scheme of DoWR, RD&GR gives emphasis to the drought prone areas of country. Special provisions have been made in criteria for selection of projects and central funding ratio under PMKSY-AIBP. If a project has more than 50% command in drought prone area, 50% advance stage criteria has been relaxed and the project can be included since beginning of the construction with enhance funding ratio of 60 (Centre): 40 (State) in the proportion of command area falling in drought prone area. Out of 115 projects under PMKSY-AIBP, 62 projects benefit Drought prone areas (DPAP). During 2016-2024, additional potential of 16.03 lakh hectare has been created through these projects.

Har Khet Ko Pani (HKKP) is one of the components of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY). The scheme of Repair, Renovation & Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies has now become a part of PMKSY-HKKP. DoWR, RD&GR under Ministry of Jal Shakti provides Central Assistance (CA) to States for creation and restoration of Irrigation Potential (I.P.) under the RRR of Water Bodies schemes. The budget outlay of PMKSY-HKKP for the FY 2021-22 to FY 2025-26 is Rs. 4580 crores.

A Special Package has been approved by Government of India during 2018-19 to provide Central Assistance to projects in drought prone districts in Vidarbha and Marathwada and rest of Maharashtra. 60 SMI and 2 MMI projects have been completed, and 1.77 lakh hectare irrigation potential has been completed under the scheme.

Various Steps taken by the Ministry of Jal Shakti and other Central Ministries for Water conservation, Control and regulation of ground water and to promote rain water harvesting / artificial recharge etc. can be seen at

URL:<https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s3a70dc40477bc2adceef4d2c90f47eb82/uploads/2024/07/20240716706354487.pdf>

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