

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1828

ANSWERED ON 17.03.2025

ATAL BHUJAL YOJANA

1828. SHRI S NIRANJAN REDDY

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

- (a) the reasons for the lowered allocation of funds for Atal Bhujal Yojana (ABY) from ₹1,778 Cr in BE 2024-25 to ₹600 Cr in RE 2024-25 and the details thereof;
- (b) the rationale for extension of ABY to the States of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Punjab and Bihar as a centrally sponsored scheme rather than a central sector scheme and the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government plans on commissioning an independent third-party evaluation of ABY as recommended by the Standing Committee on Water Resources (2024-25) and the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

- (a) Atal Bhujal Yojana (ABY) is a unique scheme for sustainable groundwater management through community participation. Under the Scheme, funds are released to the participating States based on their performance. As per the modified guidelines issued by the Department of Expenditure relating to fund flow mechanism, ABY is to be shifted from existing CNA Model 2 to the new fund flow model (viz. CNA Model 1A – Hybrid Model). This necessitated reconfiguration of fund release to States due to which the allocation for ABY was revised at RE stage.
- (b) No decision has been taken in this regard and therefore question does not arise.
- (c) No such recommendation of the Standing Committee on Water Resources (2024-25) has been received so far. However, independent third-party evaluations have already been conducted and performance of the Scheme has been found satisfactory.
