

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 709

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

GROUNDWATER LEVEL IN UTTAR PRADESH

709. # DR. LAXMIKANT BAJPAYEE

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

- (a) whether groundwater level is declining in several districts of the State of Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the district-wise and year-wise details of groundwater level in the State of Uttar Pradesh during the last five years;
- (c) the steps taken and various schemes implemented by Government to maintain and increase the groundwater level in the State;
- (d) the details of various agencies engaged in this work in the State of Uttar Pradesh; and
- (e) the expenditure incurred for this purpose in the State during the last five years?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) monitors groundwater levels throughout the country, including Uttar Pradesh, four times in every year through its network of monitoring stations. Analysis of such water level data for the past 5 years shows that the percentage of wells registering ground water levels within 0-10 mbgl (meters below ground level) range have consistently remained above 80% during the period in Uttar Pradesh, indicating ease of access to ground water.

(b) The district wise ground water levels measured for the period of last five years (2020-2024) in respect of Uttar Pradesh can be accessed from the below link <https://jalshakti-dowr.gov.in/document/the-district-wise-groundwater-level-data-for-uttar-pradesh-recorded-over-the-past-five-years-2020-2024/>

(c) Water being a State subject, the responsibility of addressing the ground water related issues lies primarily with the concerned State Governments. However, the Central Government facilitates the efforts of the State Governments by way of technical and financial assistance through its various schemes and projects. In this direction, the important steps taken by the Ministry of Jal Shakti and other central ministries for sustainable management of ground water resources in the country are given below:-

- i. The Government is implementing Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA) in the country since 2019 which is a mission mode and time bound programme for harvesting the rainfall and taking up water conservation activities. Currently, JSA 2024 is being implemented in the country with special focus on 151 water stressed districts of the country, including 10 such districts in Uttar Pradesh. JSA is an umbrella campaign under which various ground water recharge and conservation related works are being taken up in convergence with various central and state schemes. As per the information, under JSA, a total of around 13.53 lakh water conservation and rain water harvesting structures have been constructed in Uttar Pradesh in the last 4 years.
- ii. CGWB has taken up National Aquifer Mapping and Management Programme (NAQUIM) with an aim to delineate aquifer disposition and their characterization. Entire mappable area of the country of around 25 lakh sq. km, including 2.40 lakh sq km of Uttar Pradesh, has been mapped under the scheme and management plans have been shared with the respective State/District administrations for implementation.
- iii. Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Groundwater- 2020 has been prepared by the CGWB for the entire country, including Uttar Pradesh and shared with States/UTs providing a broad outline for construction of around 1.42 crore rain water harvesting and artificial recharge structures in the country to harness 185 BCM (Billion cubic meter) of water. For Uttar Pradesh, the Masterplan recommends around 23 thousand structures.
- iv. Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare (DA & FW), GoI, is implementing Per Drop More Crop Scheme in the country, including Uttar Pradesh, since 2015-16, which focuses on enhancing water use efficiency at farm level through Micro Irrigation and better on-farm water management practices to optimize the use of available water resources.
- v. Mission Amrit Sarovar was launched by the Government of India which aimed at developing and rejuvenating at least 75 water bodies in each district of the country, including Uttar Pradesh. As an outcome nearly 69,000 Amrit Sarovars have been constructed/rejuvenated in the country, with 16,630 in Uttar Pradesh.
- vi. Ministry has circulated a Model Bill to all the States/UTs to enable them to enact suitable ground water legislation for regulation of its development, which also includes provision of rain water harvesting. So far, 21 States/UTs including Uttar Pradesh have adopted and implemented the ground water legislation.
- vii. Details of several other significant initiatives of the Government of India for improvement of groundwater situation in the country can be seen through the link below-
<https://jalshakti-dowr.gov.in/document/steps-taken-by-the-central-government-to-control-water-depletion-and-promote-rain-water-harvesting-conservation/>
- viii. Further, as informed by the state government, Uttar Pradesh Ground Water Management and Regulation Act-2019 has been enacted since 2019. Under this Act, Installation of Rain water Harvesting Structures is made compulsory for Government/Semi-Government buildings and for those users extracting ground water in their premises having plot area of 300 square meter or more. Thus far, Ground Water Department, Uttar Pradesh has constructed approx. 2.86 lack square meter Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting Structures in Government buildings.

(d) As per the information received from the Ground Water Department, Uttar Pradesh, various agencies like Ground Water Department, Minor Irrigation Department, Department of Panchayati Raj etc. are involved in water conservation work across the state.

(e) As per the information received from the Ground Water Department, Uttar Pradesh, a total expenditure of Rs. 11,822 Cr has been incurred on construction/rejuvenation/restoration of various artificial recharge and other water conservation works in the state from the year 2019 to the present under the Jal Shakti Abhiyan.
