

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

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 738

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

GROUNDWATER DEPLETION IN HARYANA

738. SMT. KIRAN CHOUDHRY

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the increasing groundwater depletion in the State of Haryana;
- (b) if so, the measures that have been taken by Government to address this issue; and
- (c) the technological interventions made by Government to ensure proper recharge of groundwater resources?

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 Haryana, four times in every year through its network of monitoring stations. In order to understand the long term trends of ground water levels in Haryana, the water level data collected by CGWB for Haryana during November 2024 has been compared with the decadal mean of November months for ten years (2014-2023). Analysis of such water level data indicates that about 46.7% of the wells monitored have registered rise in ground water levels.

(b) 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 Haryana. 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 1.49 lakh water conservation and rain water harvesting structures have been constructed in Haryana in 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 44,179 sq km of Haryana, 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 Haryana 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 Haryana, the Masterplan recommends around 7.42 lakh structures.
- iv. MoJS is implementing Atal Bhujal Yojana, which is a community led scheme for participatory ground water management focusing on demand side management of ground water in 80 water stressed districts in 7 States, Haryana being one among them.
- v. Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare (DA & FW), GoI, is implementing Per Drop More Crop Scheme in the country, including Haryana, 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.
- vi. 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 Haryana. As an outcome nearly 69,000 Amrit Sarovars have been constructed/rejuvenated in the country, with 2,120 in Haryana.
- vii. A total of 40 nos. of Public Interaction Programmes (PIPs) have been organized in the various parts of Haryana by CGWB and 07 nos. of Tier II and 14 nos. of Tier III trainings have been organized so far to promote awareness on groundwater.

(c) Understanding the pivotal need for harnessing the latest technology and also keeping pace with advanced global practices, this Ministry has inducted/upgraded several state-of-the-art technological features which are expected to help in more accurate mapping, monitoring and assessment of groundwater resources. Some of the major developments in this direction include the following :

- i. Realizing the significance of having high frequency data on ground water, this Ministry has taken up the process of installing Digital Water Level Recorders (DWLRs) with telemetry systems throughout the country under its various schemes and projects like Ground Water Management & Regulation (GWM &R) Scheme, Atal Bhujal Yojana etc. The state governments, including Haryana, are also funded for carrying out the said activity under National Hydrology Project(NHP). These instruments transmit water level data directly from the field to a central server at high frequency which will facilitate near-real-time access to this data
- ii. Heli-borne geophysical surveys adopting Transient Electromagnetic Methods have been carried out by CGWB in collaboration with CSIR-NGRI for high resolution mapping of aquifers in the arid north western areas of the country, including parts of Yamunanagar and Kurukshetra districts of Haryana. Several potential sites for ground water exploration as well as conducting artificial recharge were identified in the survey.
