GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. *164

ANSWERED ON 04.08.2025

DECLINE IN GROUNDWATER LEVELS AND WATER MANAGEMENT MEASURES

*164 #. SHRI ADITYA PRASAD

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a decline in groundwater level (Depth-to-Water Level - DTWL) has been recorded in the State of Jharkhand, if so, the details thereof, district-wise; and

(b) the immediate and long-term measures taken so far under Atal Bhujal Yojana and Jal Shakti Abhiyan to stop this declining trend and ensure sustainable availability of potable water in urban areas?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI C R PAATIL)

(a) to (b) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (b) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. *164 TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.08.2025 IN RAJYA SABHA REGARDING "DECLINE IN GROUNDWATER LEVELS AND WATER MANAGEMENT MEASURES"

(a) Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) monitors groundwater levels throughout the country including the State of Jharkhand, four times in every year. The district-wise groundwater level data measured during Post monsoon (November), 2024 for the State of Jharkhand is given in **Annexure-I.** Perusal of data indicates that approximately 99% of the analysed wells have depth to water level in the range of 0-10 meters below ground level (mbgl).

Further, in order to assess the long-term fluctuation in groundwater levels, district-wise groundwater level data of November, 2024 for the State of Jharkhand has been compared with the decadal mean of data for the November month from 2014 to 2023. Such analysis indicates that about 60% of the monitored wells have registered rise in groundwater levels. District-wise details are provided in **Annexure II.**

(b) Water being a State subject, sustainable development and management of groundwater resources is primarily the responsibility of the 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, efforts of the Central Government for augmenting the ground water resources of the country, including Jharkhand are mainly channeled through the flagship campaign of Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA). JSA is a time bound and mission mode programme being conducted annually since 2019 by the M/o Jal Shakti, wherein all the efforts and funds under various schemes and projects are converged to deliver water harvesting and artificial recharge works on the ground.

Currently, JSA 2025 is underway in the country with special focus on over-exploited and critical areas. As per the available information, under JSA, completion of around 5 lakh water conservation and artificial recharge works has been coordinated through convergence in Jharkhand in the last 4 years.

To further strengthen the momentum of Jal Shakti Abhiyan, Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari (JSJB): A Community-Driven Path to Water Sustainability in India has been launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister with a vision to make rain water harvesting a mass movement in the country. By promoting community ownership and responsibility, the initiative seeks to develop cost-effective, local solutions tailored to specific water challenges across different regions. In Jharkhand, around 2798 such locally suited rainwater harvesting and ground water recharge structures have been built through convergence under phase 1.0 of JSJB.

Atal Bhujal Yojana, which is a pilot scale programme focusing on selected priority water stressed districts, is not being implemented in Jharkhand.

With regard to sustainable availability of potable water in urban areas of Jharkhand, it is to state that responsibility of the same lies mainly on the state governments and urban local bodies. However, M/o Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), GoI, has been implementing AMRUT and AMRUT 2.0 Schemes, which are major initiatives to improve the quality of life in cities, including expanding water supply schemes and providing potable tap water connections.

As informed by the state, under AMRUT Mission and through convergence, so far 2.99 lakh urban households have been provided water tap connections (new/ serviced) against the target of 3.61 lakh, in Jharkhand. To further expand the coverage of urban infrastructure, including water supply, AMRUT 2.0 is being implemented since 2021 in all statutory towns of the country, to enable them to become 'self-reliant' and 'water secure'. So far, under AMRUT 2.0, totally 17 water supply projects and 70 water body rejuvenation projects have been approved by MoHUA for Jharkhand.

Furthermore, under Shallow Aquifer Management (SAM) of MoHUA, priority cities have been selected for addressing groundwater depletion and water logging, by taking up over 35 pilot recharge structures in 6 cities in various parts of the country, notably raising water levels by 2-3 feet. In Jharkhand state, the city of Dhanbad is covered under this programme.

Thus, all the above schemes and programmes are working in a synergic fashion for conservation, recharge and enhancing sustainability of water sources with an objective to ensure water and drinking water security of urban areas of the country, including in Jharkhand.

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ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *164 TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.08.2025 REGARDING "DECLINE IN GROUNDWATER LEVELS AND WATER MANAGEMENT MEASURES"

District-wise Depth to Water Level (DTWL) of Post-Monsoon 2024 (Unconfined Aquifer) for the State of Jharkhand

SNo	District Name	No of well analysed	No./Percentage of wells showing depth to water level (mbgl) in the range of											
			0 to 2		2 to 5		5 to 10		10 to 20		20 to 40		> 40	
			No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1	Bokaro	15	3	20	10	66.7	1	6.7	1	6.7	0	0	0	0
2	Chatra	15	1	6.7	5	33.3	8	53.3	1	6.7	0	0	0	0
3	Deoghar	10	1	10	4	40	5	50	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Dhanbad	18	3	16.7	12	66.7	3	16.7	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Dumka	15	0	0	6	40	9	60	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	East Singhbum	33	11	33.3	16	48.5	6	18.2	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Garhwa	17	1	5.9	12	70.6	3	17.6	1	5.9	0	0	0	0
8	Giridih	15	2	13.3	12	80	1	6.7	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	Godda	12	0	0	8	66.7	4	33.3	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Gumla	20	7	35	11	55	2	10	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	Hazaribagh	26	2	7.7	16	61.5	8	30.8	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	Jamtara	10	0	0	8	80	2	20	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	Khunti	15	3	20	12	80	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	Koderma	10	0	0	9	90	1	10	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	Latehar	9	2	22.2	5	55.6	2	22.2	0	0	0	0	0	0
16	Lohardaga	12	0	0	9	75	3	25	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	Pakur	6	0	0	3	50	3	50	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Palamu	14	1	7.1	9	64.3	4	28.6	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Ramgarh	17	0	0	14	82.4	3	17.6	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	Ranchi	55	6	10.9	46	83.6	3	5.5	0	0	0	0	0	0
21	Sahebganj	16	0	0	9	56.3	7	43.8	0	0	0	0	0	0
22	Saraikela Kharsawan	12	5	41.7	6	50	1	8.3	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	Simdega	15	3	20	10	66.7	2	13.3	0	0	0	0	0	0
24	West Singhbhum	18	3	16.7	10	55.6	4	22.2	1	5.6	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL	**405**	**54**	**13.3**	**262**	**64.7**	**85**	**21**	**4**	**1**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**

ANNEXURE-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *164 TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.08.2025 REGARDING "DECLINE IN GROUNDWATER LEVELS AND WATER MANAGEMENT MEASURES"

District-Wise comparative water level analysis between Mean of Post-monsoon 2014 to 2023 with Post-monsoon 2024 for Jharkhand State

S No	District Name	No of Wells Analysed	No./Percentage of wells showing fluctuation in groundwater level (m) in the range of												Total Rise		Total Fall	
			Rise						Fall									
			0 to 2		2 to 4		> 4		0 to 2		2 to 4		> 4					
			No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1	Bokaro	9	8	88.9	0	0	0	0	1	11.1	0	0	0	0	8	88.9	1	11.1
2	Chatra	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	100	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	4	100.0
3	Deoghar	6	1	16.7	0	0	0	0	5	83.3	0	0	0	0	1	16.7	5	83.3
4	Dhanbad	11	9	81.8	0	0	0	0	2	18.2	0	0	0	0	9	81.8	2	18.2
5	Dumka	14	2	14.3	0	0	0	0	11	78.6	1	7.1	0	0	2	14.3	12	85.7
6	East Singhbum	12	6	50	1	8.3	1	8.3	4	33.3	0	0	0	0	8	66.7	4	33.3
7	Garhwa	4	2	50	1	25	0	0	1	25	0	0	0	0	3	75.0	1	25.0
8	Giridih	11	7	63.6	1	9.1	0	0	2	18.2	1	9.1	0	0	8	72.7	3	27.3
9	Godda	8	2	25	0	0	0	0	5	62.5	1	12.5	0	0	2	25.0	6	75.0
10	Gumla	13	3	23.1	8	61.5	0	0	2	15.4	0	0	0	0	11	84.6	2	15.4
11	Hazaribagh	14	6	42.9	1	7.1	0	0	7	50	0	0	0	0	7	50.0	7	50.0
12	Jamtara	8	4	50	3	37.5	0	0	1	12.5	0	0	0	0	7	87.5	1	12.5
13	Koderma	5	3	60	1	20	1	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	100.0	0	0.0
14	Latehar	6	4	66.7	0	0	1	16.7	1	16.7	0	0	0	0	5	83.3	1	16.7
15	Khunti	Long-term data is not available																
16	Lohardaga	9	4	44.4	2	22.2	0	0	2	22.2	1	11.1	0	0	6	66.7	3	33.3
17	Pakur	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	60	2	40	0	0	0	0.0	5	100.0
18	Palamu	7	5	71.4	0	0	0	0	2	28.6	0	0	0	0	5	71.4	2	28.6
19	Ramgarh	13	8	61.5	0	0	0	0	3	23.1	2	15.4	0	0	8	61.5	5	38.5
20	Ranchi	18	15	83.3	3	16.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	100.0	0	0.0
21	Sahebganj	14	1	7.1	0	0	0	0	11	78.6	2	14.3	0	0	1	7.1	13	92.9
22	Saraikela Kharsawan	6	2	33.3	1	16.7	0	0	3	50	0	0	0	0	3	50.0	3	50.0
23	Simdega	13	9	69.2	0	0	0	0	4	30.8	0	0	0	0	9	69.2	4	30.8
24	West Singhbhum	11	5	45.5	1	9.1	0	0	5	45.5	0	0	0	0	6	54.5	5	45.5
	Total	**221**	**106**	**48**	**23**	**10.4**	**3**	**1.4**	**79**	**35.7**	**10**	**4.5**	**0**	**0**	**132**	**59.7**	**89**	**40.3**

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