

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

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2795

ANSWERED ON 18.08.2025

RURAL WATER MANAGEMENT IN BIHAR

2795. SHRI AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH:

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

- (a) the number of new check dams, rainwater harvesting structures and micro-irrigation projects approved this year for drought-prone regions in South Bihar;
- (b) the community awareness campaigns organized in the State of Bihar to educate rural households about sustainable water use and conservation practices; and
- (c) the current status of efforts to restore and reactivate non-functional tube wells in rural areas of the State of Bihar that experience seasonal water shortages?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) 'Water' being a State subject, water planning, development, and management of water resources projects are undertaken by the concerned State Government based on its own resources and priority. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the States through technical and financial support.

Under the umbrella campaign of the Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch The Rain, communities, with active involvement of local authorities, have driven large-scale rainwater harvesting, groundwater recharge, rejuvenation of traditional water bodies, awareness creation, across urban and rural India. The Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain (JSA: CTR) has made remarkable strides in water conservation and resource management across the country by creation of check dams, gabion structures, contour trenching, gully plugs, water harvesting pits, rooftop rainwater harvesting structures (RWHS), removal of encroachments from water bodies, de-silting of tanks in rural areas to increase their storage capacity and shallow aquifers management in urban, to recharge ground water, enhance water table and mitigate urban flooding. The intervention wise details under JSA: CTR Campaign in Bihar is attached at **Annexure I**.

Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) was launched during the year 2015-16. PMKSY is an umbrella scheme, consisting of two major components being implemented by the Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, namely, Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP), and Har Khet Ko Pani (HKKP). HKKP consists of four sub-components: Command Area Development & Water Management (CAD&WM), Surface Minor Irrigation (SMI), Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies, and Ground Water (GW) Development component.

The details of SMI and RRR schemes take-up in the State of Bihar under PMKSY-HKKP as on 31st March, 2025 are at **Annexure II(a) & II(b)**.

Also, as per information provided by the Government of Bihar, 13,100 check dams and 14,927 rainwater harvesting structures have been constructed by various implementing departments under the Jal-Jeevan Hariyali Abhiyan since October 2019. About 48,652 acres area are brought under micro-irrigation through Agriculture Department across Bihar.

(b) 'Water' being a State subject, the responsibility for the conservation and management of water resources, including public awareness generation, primarily rests with the State Governments and local bodies.

However, the Government of India has undertaken several initiatives including Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain (JSA: CTR) across the country including the State of Bihar to sensitize the public about the importance of water conservation and to promote behavioural changes in water usage patterns. Awareness generation is one of the five focused interventions of JSA: CTR campaign which aims at spreading public awareness about water-related challenges and the importance of conservation, with an emphasis on turning water conservation into a people's movement (Jan Andolan).

To further deepen public involvement, "Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari" (JSJB) initiative was launched in Surat, Gujarat on 6th September 2024. This initiative encourages collective action by communities, civil society, and local governments to implement low-cost, locally appropriate water conservation solutions under a whole-of-society and whole-of-government approach. As part of this initiative, the National Water Mission (NWM) under the Ministry of Jal Shakti, in collaboration with various agencies, organizes several community awareness programs to highlight the importance of water conservation.

To further enhance outreach, the National Water Mission (NWM) collaborated with the Department of Youth Affairs, leveraging the extensive network of Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) and its youth clubs including those in Bihar to mobilize grassroots participation in water conservation efforts under the Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain (JSA: CTR) campaign.

As part of JSA: CTR, States and Union Territories have been requested to establish Jal Shakti Kendras (JSKs) in all districts. These Kendras function as resource and knowledge centers, providing information on water-related issues, showcasing best practices, offering technical support, and serving as local hubs for water conservation strategies. Jal Shakti Kendras have been established in all 38 districts of Bihar.

Additionally, Information, Education & Communication (IEC) activities are undertaken regularly by the Ministry of Jal Shakti to disseminate key messages on water conservation. The Department also utilizes social media platforms to share informative content and highlight various programmes and achievements in this domain.

In addition, the Ministry of Jal Shakti launched the National Water Awards to acknowledge and encourage exemplary efforts in the field of water resources management. These awards are conferred in multiple categories including Best State, Best District, Best Village Panchayat, Best Industry, among

others. The objective is to highlight and celebrate successful models of water conservation and motivate replication of such practices.

The Ministry of Jal Shakti, through the Swachh Sujal Shakti Samman initiative, celebrates and acknowledges the exemplary contributions of women in promoting water conservation, sustainable sanitation, and hygiene practices. This recognition highlights the crucial role women play in leading community-driven efforts toward water conservation and its sustainable use.

Moreover, under the ongoing Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain (JSA:CTR) campaign, several innovative models of groundwater recharge and water conservation are observed across various regions which showcasing the diversity of locally adapted and community-driven solutions. The “Karmbhoomi se Matribhoomi” Model reflects contributions made by individuals working in Gujarat towards recharge projects in their native states such as Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Bihar. This voluntary and emotional investment has enabled cross-state support for sustainable groundwater recharge.

Additionally, CGWB conducts Public Interaction Programme (PIP) to sensitize and create awareness among various stakeholders including farmers on various aspects of water conservation and ground water management in Bihar. A total number of 70 PIPs are conducted during 2019 to 2025, in which 6986 people participated. Apart from this, 25 nos. of Tier-III training program were also conducted during 2012 to 2025, in which a total of 3339 people were made aware about the sustainable water use and conservation practices along with other ground water issues.

(c) ‘Water’ being a State subject, the responsibility for the conservation and management of water resources, including public awareness generation, primarily rests with the State Governments and local bodies.

The “Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari (JSJB)” initiative, launched under the Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain campaign, stands out as an innovative approach to mobilizing private sector participation in water conservation efforts. This initiative focuses on the construction of low-cost artificial recharge structures, with a special emphasis on rooftop rainwater harvesting systems, recharging of defunct bore wells, and creation of recharge pits. The details of JSJB 1.0 and 2.0 initiative in the State of Bihar is attached at **Annexure-III(a) & III(b)** respectively.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2795 TO BE ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 18.08.2025 REGARDING “RURAL WATER MANAGEMENT IN BIHAR”.

Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain						
National Water Mission, Ministry of Jal Shakti						
Bihar - Intervention wise Progress (Status from 22-03-2021 to 31-07-2025)						
JSA Year	Water Conservation and Rain Water Harvesting	Renovation of Traditional Water Bodies	Reuse and Recharge Structures	Watershed Development	Total Water Related Works (Year-wise)	Intensive Afforestation
2021	37075	7357	35486	22636	102554	41098667
2022	29371	5040	7794	12789	54994	25883344
2023	57917	8034	20981	26604	113536	36577301
2024	65921	6983	14735	33298	120937	2055315
2025	26484	2728	12282	15268	56762	462182
Total	216768	30142	91278	110595	448783	106076809

Details of SMI and RRR schemes taken-up in the State of Bihar under PMKSY-HKKP (2015-16) as on 31st March, 2025

ANNEXURE-II(a)

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2795 TO BE ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 18.08.2025 REGARDING “RURAL WATER MANAGEMENT IN BIHAR”.

Surface Minor Irrigation (SMI) scheme under PMKSY-HKPP

State	No. of SMI Schemes included in PMKSY	Estimated Cost (Rs. Cr.)	Central Assistance (CA) (Rs. Cr.)	Target Irrigation Potential (IP) (Th. Ha.)	CA Released (Rs. Cr.)	Expenditure Incurred (Rs. Cr.)	No. of Schemes completed	IP Created (Th. Ha.)
Bihar	47	141.29	84.77	21.08	69.91	221.67	47	21.08

ANNEXURE-II(b)

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2795 TO BE ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 18.08.2025 REGARDING “RURAL WATER MANAGEMENT IN BIHAR”.

Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies scheme under PMKSY-HKPP

State	No. of RRR Schemes included in PMKSY	Estimated Cost (Rs. Cr.)	Central Assistance (CA) (Rs. Cr.)	Target Irrigation Potential (IP) (Th. Ha.)	Targeted Storage Revival (MCM)	CA Released (Rs. Cr.)	Expenditure Incurred (Rs. Cr.)	No. of schemes completed	IP Created (Th. Ha.)	Storage Revived (MCM)
Bihar	73	161.91	89.46	20.36	206.34	41.76	75.85	73	20.34	206.87

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2795 TO BE ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 18.08.2025 REGARDING “RURAL WATER MANAGEMENT IN BIHAR”.

BIHAR - District-wise progress under Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari 1.0			
(Status as on 31.05.2025)			
S.No	State	District	Completed Works
1	BIHAR	ARARIA	2445
2	BIHAR	ARWAL	543
3	BIHAR	AURANGABAD	4813
4	BIHAR	BANKA	1792
5	BIHAR	BEGUSARAI	1897
6	BIHAR	BHAGALPUR	3464
7	BIHAR	BHOJPUR	4251
8	BIHAR	BUXAR	2685
9	BIHAR	DARBHANGA	4904
10	BIHAR	GAYA	1722
11	BIHAR	GOPALGANJ	1535
12	BIHAR	JAMUI	4276
13	BIHAR	JEHANABAD	1865
14	BIHAR	KAIMUR (BHABUA)	8714
15	BIHAR	KATIHAR	5607
16	BIHAR	KHAGARIA	1164
17	BIHAR	KISHANGANJ	2532
18	BIHAR	LAKHISARAI	1681
19	BIHAR	MADHEPURA	1217
20	BIHAR	MADHUBANI	4601
21	BIHAR	MUNGER	2017
22	BIHAR	MUZAFFARPUR	3527
23	BIHAR	NALANDA	12051
24	BIHAR	NAWADA	2555
25	BIHAR	PASHCHIM CHAMPARAN	3667
26	BIHAR	PATNA	2809
27	BIHAR	PURBI CHAMPARAN	5725
28	BIHAR	PURNIA	3976
29	BIHAR	ROHTAS	7302
30	BIHAR	SAHARSA	3764
31	BIHAR	SAMASTIPUR	2599
32	BIHAR	SARAN	4022
33	BIHAR	SHEIKHPURA	1210
34	BIHAR	SHEOHAR	2054
35	BIHAR	SITAMARHI	4520
36	BIHAR	SIWAN	4789
37	BIHAR	SUPAUL	2176
38	BIHAR	VAISHALI	3420
Total			133891

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2795 TO BE ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 18.08.2025 REGARDING “RURAL WATER MANAGEMENT IN BIHAR”.

BIHAR - District-wise progress under Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari 2.0					
(Status as on 30.07.2025)					
S.No	State	District	Completed Works	Ongoing Works	Total Works
1	Bihar	Araria	520	683	1203
2	Bihar	Arwal	110	90	200
3	Bihar	Aurangabad	282	665	947
4	Bihar	Banka	551	86	637
5	Bihar	Begusarai	415	147	562
6	Bihar	Bhagalpur	320	286	606
7	Bihar	Bhojpur	1002	8	1010
8	Bihar	Buxar	233	14	247
9	Bihar	Darbhangha	83	314	397
10	Bihar	Gaya	577	118	695
11	Bihar	Gopalganj	214	1384	1598
12	Bihar	Jamui	288	166	454
13	Bihar	Jehanabad	163	334	497
14	Bihar	Kaimur (Bhabua)	81	428	509
15	Bihar	Katihar	239	107	346
16	Bihar	Khagaria	74	11	85
17	Bihar	Kishanganj	70	89	159
18	Bihar	Lakhisarai	37	253	290
19	Bihar	Madhepura	79	249	328
20	Bihar	Madhubani	98	213	311
21	Bihar	Munger	11	64	75
22	Bihar	Muzaffarpur	149	627	776
23	Bihar	Nalanda	69	429	498
24	Bihar	Nawada	161	130	291
25	Bihar	Pashchim Champaran	316	822	1138
26	Bihar	Patna	38	1214	1252
27	Bihar	Purbi Champaran	10711	863	11574
28	Bihar	Purnia	235	117	352
29	Bihar	Rohtas	90	229	319
30	Bihar	Saharsa	6	45	51
31	Bihar	Samastipur	314	222	536
32	Bihar	Saran	86	32	118
33	Bihar	Sheikhpura	111	51	162
34	Bihar	Sheohar	32	74	106
35	Bihar	Sitamarhi	266	319	585
36	Bihar	Siwan	349	10	359
37	Bihar	Supaul	68	64	132
38	Bihar	Vaishali	59	52	111
Total			18507	11009	29516
