GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI
DEPARTMENT OF DRINKING WATER & SANITATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3451
ANSWERED ON 23/03/2026

DRINKING WATER SECURITY, IRRIGATION AND WATER CONSERVATION

3451# DR. SANDEEP KUMAR PATHAK:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rural households provided with tap water connections under the Jal Jeevan Mission during the last five years, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) the number of areas experiencing a continuous decline in groundwater levels and the special recharge and conservation schemes implemented for such areas, the details thereof;

(c) the current status of major irrigation projects, along with the reasons for cost escalation and delays, the details thereof; and

(d) the plans formulated for rainwater harvesting, water recycling and efficient water management to address the water crisis arising from climate change, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI
(SHRI V. SOMANNA)

(a) to (c) To enable every rural household in the country to have assured potable water, in adequate quantity of prescribed quality on regular and long-term basis, through tap water connection, since August 2019, Government of India in partnership with states, is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) - Har Ghar Jal.

At the start the Mission, only 3.23 Crore (16.7%) rural households were reported to have tap water connections. So far, as reported by States/ UTs as on 03.03.2026, under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) – Har Ghar Jal more than 12.58 Crore additional rural households have been provided with tap water connections. Thus, as on 03.03.2026, out of around 19.36 Crore rural households in the country, around 15.82 Crore (81.71%) households are reported to have tap water supply in their homes.

The Year-wise, State/ UT-wise, District-wise and Village-wise status of tap water connection provided under the Mission in rural areas is in public domain and available on JJM dashboard at:

https://ejalshakti.gov.in/jjmreport/JJMIndia.aspx

As drinking water being a state subject, under JJM, responsibilities for planning, approval, implementation, operation and maintenance of drinking water supply schemes lie with State/ UT governments. Government of India supplements the efforts of the State/ UT government by providing technical and financial assistance.

JJM follows a universal approach for coverage of rural households. Since 2019, 30% weightage has been assigned for difficult terrains which *inter alia* include areas under Desert Development Programme (DDP) and Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) while allocating the funds under JJM, to prioritize the coverage in these areas.

Provisions have also been made for planning and implementation of bulk water transfer from long distances and regional water supply schemes for ensuring tap water supply in drought-prone & water-scarce areas/ areas with inadequate rainfall or dependable ground water sources. In addition, provisions have been made for source recharging, viz. dedicated bore well recharge structures, rain water recharge, rejuvenation of existing water bodies, etc., in convergence with other schemes such as VB-G RAM G, Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP), 15th Finance Commission tied grants to RLBs/ PRIs, State schemes, CSR funds, etc.

Moreover, under JJM, as per existing guidelines, Bureau of Indian Standards' BIS:10500 standards are adopted as benchmark for quality of water being supplied through the piped water supply schemes.

As per the Operational Guidelines, States/ UTs can utilize up to 2% of their annual allocation of funds under JJM for Water Quality Monitoring & Surveillance (WQM&S) activities, inter-alia, which includes setting up and strengthening of water quality testing laboratories, procurement of equipment, instruments, chemicals, glassware, consumables, hiring of skilled manpower, surveillance by community using field test kits (FTKs), awareness generation, educational programmes on water quality, accreditation/recognition of laboratories, etc.

In consultation with various stakeholders 'Concise Handbook for Monitoring Water Quality of Piped Drinking Water Supply to Rural Households' has been released in December 2024 for guidance to States/ UT's. This handbook recommended for a comprehensive testing of drinking water samples at various testing points such as source, treatment plant, storage and distribution points, and remedial action wherever necessary, to ensure that the water supplied to households is of prescribed quality.

CGWB monitors groundwater levels throughout the country, four times in every year during the months of March/April/May, August, November and January. The district-wise water level data measured during Post monsoon 2025 across all the states of the country given in **Annex-I** indicates that approximately 90% of the analyzed wells have water levels ranging from 0 to 10 meters below ground level.

In order to assess the long-term fluctuation in ground water level, district-wise groundwater level data of November 2025 has been compared with the decadal mean of data of November (2015-2024) and given in **Annex-II.** Analysis of this data indicates that about 73.25 % of the well monitored have registered rise in groundwater level.

(d) Water being a State subject, the aspects related to water resources including its conservation and management are studied, planned, funded and executed by the State Governments themselves as per their own resources and priorities. Role of Government of India is limited to being catalytic, providing technical support and, in some cases partial financial assistance in terms with the existing schemes being implemented by the Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation. Various efforts taken by Government to promote rainwater harvesting, water conservation and efficient water management are as follows:

Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) is implementing the Ground Water Management and Regulation (GWMR) Scheme for scientific assessment, monitoring, and sustainable management of groundwater resources. Key activities include groundwater exploration, water level and quality monitoring, and resource assessment to support evidence-based planning.

Under this, the National Aquifer Mapping (NAQUIM) Programme has covered about 25 lakh sq. km, with aquifer maps and management plans shared with States/UTs for implementation. NAQUIM 2.0 is now underway for high-resolution mapping in priority areas, supported by advanced technologies such as heliborne surveys to enable precise aquifer characterization and planning.

The Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Groundwater–2020 provides a macro-level framework for constructing about 1.42 crore recharge structures to harness 185 BCM of monsoon rainfall. Demonstrative projects and technical support to States further promote adoption of suitable recharge interventions, including convergence with schemes.

To strengthen regulation, the Ministry of Jal Shakti has issued guidelines for groundwater extraction (2020, amended 2023), mandating rainwater harvesting, water use efficiency, and recycling. A Model Bill has also been circulated for enactment of groundwater legislation, with most States/UTs adopting it. In parallel, CGWB undertakes awareness, training, and IEC activities to promote water conservation.

These efforts are complemented by initiatives such as National Water Awards, dissemination of best practices, and provisions for wastewater recycling in urban and industrial sectors, collectively contributing to sustainable groundwater management.

Apart from this, the other important steps taken by the Central Government to promote water conservation and efficient management and to improve groundwater level in the country can be seen at

https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s3a70dc40477bc2adceef4d2c90f47eb82/uploads/2024/07/20240716706354487.pdf

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Annex-I

Annex referred to in Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3451 answered on 23.03.2026

State-wise Depth to Water Level Distribution of Percentage of Observation Wells Post-Monsoon 2025

S. No.	State/UT	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	A&N Islands	109	102	93.6	7	6.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
2	Andhra Pradesh	801	463	57.8	219	27.3	78	9.7	25	3.1	11	1.4	5	0.6
3	Arunachal Pradesh	28	11	39.3	13	46.4	3	10.7	1	3.6	0	0.0	0	0.0
4	Assam	413	203	49.2	172	41.6	29	7.0	7	1.7	2	0.5	0	0.0
5	Bihar	874	216	24.7	554	63.4	103	11.8	1	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0
6	Chandigarh	12	0	0.0	3	25.0	2	16.7	2	16.7	3	25.0	2	16.7
7	Chhattisgarh	934	240	25.7	558	59.7	122	13.1	12	1.3	2	0.2	0	0.0
8	Delhi	120	18	15.0	31	25.8	41	34.2	17	14.2	12	10.0	1	0.8
9	Goa	72	26	36.1	26	36.1	16	22.2	4	5.6	0	0.0	0	0.0
10	Gujarat	997	207	20.8	461	46.2	223	22.4	77	7.7	26	2.6	3	0.3
11	Haryana	350	54	15.4	66	18.9	49	14.0	76	21.7	64	18.3	41	11.7
12	Himachal Pradesh	169	40	23.7	61	36.1	30	17.8	17	10.1	15	8.9	6	3.6
13	J & K	345	96	27.8	139	40.3	54	15.7	31	9.0	17	4.9	8	2.3
14	Jharkhand	493	96	19.5	319	64.7	76	15.4	2	0.4	0	0.0	0	0.0
15	Karnataka	1168	369	31.6	427	36.6	326	27.9	45	3.9	1	0.1	0	0.0
16	Kerala	1466	316	21.6	503	34.3	531	36.2	104	7.1	11	0.8	1	0.1
17	Madhya Pradesh	1451	351	24.2	734	50.6	313	21.6	52	3.6	1	0.1	0	0.0
18	Maharashtra	2303	744	32.3	1079	46.9	396	17.2	70	3.0	12	0.5	2	0.1
19	Manipur	4	2	50.0	2	50.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
20	Meghalaya	72	33	45.8	37	51.4	2	2.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
21	Mizoram	9	7	77.8	2	22.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
22	Nagaland	91	38	41.8	31	34.1	22	24.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
23	Odisha	1330	577	43.4	672	50.5	80	6.0	1	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0
24	Puducherry	9	4	44.4	4	44.4	1	11.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
25	Punjab	267	29	10.9	51	19.1	36	13.5	65	24.3	62	23.2	24	9.0

S. No.	State/UT	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.	%
26	Rajasthan	1180	256	21.7	195	16.5	128	10.8	138	11.7	200	16.9	263	22.3
27	Sikkim	1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
28	Tamil Nadu	921	290	31.5	361	39.2	203	22.0	59	6.4	7	0.8	1	0.1
29	Telangana	539	203	37.7	238	44.2	79	14.7	16	3.0	2	0.4	1	0.2
30	DNH & DD	41	7	17.1	30	73.2	4	9.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
31	Tripura	101	33	32.7	57	56.4	11	10.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
32	Uttar Pradesh	1103	278	25.2	465	42.2	217	19.7	117	10.6	25	2.3	1	0.1
33	Uttarakhand	191	16	8.4	44	23.0	51	26.7	29	15.2	33	17.3	18	9.4
34	West Bengal	719	323	44.9	329	45.8	51	7.1	15	2.1	1	0.1	0	0.0
	Total	**18683**	**5648**	**30.2**	**7890**	**42.2**	**3277**	**17.5**	**984**	**5.3**	**507**	**2.7**	**377**	**2.0**

Annex-II

Annex referred to in Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3451 answered on 23.03.2026

State-wise Decadal Water Level Fluctuation with Mean (Post-Monsoon 2015 to 2024) and Post-Monsoon 2025 (Unconfined Aquifer)

Sr. No.	State/UT	No of wells analysed	No. & % of wells showing change in water level												Total No. of wells	
			Rise						Fall							
			0 to 2	%	2 to 4	%	> 4	%	0 to 2	%	2 to 4	%	> 4	%	Rise	Fall
1	A&N Islands	106	83	78.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	22	20.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	83	22
2	Andhra Pradesh	603	383	63.5	96	15.9	56	9.3	55	9.1	10	1.7	3	0.5	535	68
3	Arunachal Pradesh	18	8	44.4	1	5.6	0	0.0	9	50.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	9	9
4	Assam	221	147	66.5	9	4.1	2	0.9	56	25.3	4	1.8	2	0.9	158	62
5	Bihar	591	337	57.0	36	6.1	3	0.5	204	34.5	8	1.4	0	0.0	376	212
6	Chandigarh	10	4	40.0	1	10.0	0	0.0	3	30.0	1	10.0	1	10.0	5	5
7	Chhattisgarh	727	450	61.9	74	10.2	15	2.1	166	22.8	18	2.5	3	0.4	539	187
8	Delhi	76	28	36.8	13	17.1	23	30.3	8	10.5	2	2.6	2	2.6	64	12
9	Goa	68	58	85.3	4	5.9	2	2.9	2	2.9	1	1.5	0	0.0	64	3
10	Gujarat	636	240	37.7	113	17.8	110	17.3	139	21.9	19	3.0	15	2.4	463	173
11	Haryana	243	86	35.4	36	14.8	28	11.5	45	18.5	26	10.7	22	9.1	150	93
12	Himachal Pradesh	89	57	64.0	9	10.1	5	5.6	16	18.0	1	1.1	1	1.1	71	18
13	J & K	207	123	59.4	5	2.4	5	2.4	65	31.4	6	2.9	1	0.5	133	72
14	Jharkhand	271	149	55.0	34	12.5	4	1.5	78	28.8	4	1.5	0	0.0	187	82
15	Karnataka	1110	577	52.0	127	11.4	57	5.1	304	27.4	29	2.6	12	1.1	761	345
16	Kerala	1397	772	55.3	70	5.0	26	1.9	470	33.6	37	2.6	14	1.0	868	521
17	Madhya Pradesh	1036	506	48.8	237	22.9	115	11.1	141	13.6	21	2.0	14	1.4	858	176
18	Maharashtra	1580	872	55.2	273	17.3	121	7.7	246	15.6	46	2.9	19	1.2	1266	311
19	Meghalaya	44	11	25.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	32	72.7	1	2.3	0	0.0	11	33
20	Nagaland	11	3	27.3	1	9.1	1	9.1	2	18.2	2	18.2	1	9.1	5	5
21	Odisha	1171	749	64.0	60	5.1	6	0.5	327	27.9	19	1.6	1	0.1	815	347
22	Puducherry	8	5	62.5	0	0.0	1	12.5	1	12.5	1	12.5	0	0.0	6	2
23	Punjab	185	80	43.2	17	9.2	9	4.9	38	20.5	17	9.2	23	12.4	106	78
24	Rajasthan	849	221	26.0	169	19.9	208	24.5	125	14.7	52	6.1	73	8.6	598	250
25	Tamil Nadu	800	352	44.0	169	21.1	112	14.0	125	15.6	23	2.9	15	1.9	633	163
26	Telangana	394	138	35.0	115	29.2	106	26.9	30	7.6	2	0.5	2	0.5	359	34

Sr. No.	State/UT	No of wells analysed	No. & % of wells showing change in water level												Total No. of wells	
			Rise						Fall							
			0 to 2	%	2 to 4	%	> 4	%	0 to 2	%	2 to 4	%	> 4	%	Rise	Fall
27	DNH & DD	20	8	40.0	1	5.0	1	5.0	10	50.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	10	10
28	Tripura	86	47	54.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	37	43.0	2	2.3	0	0.0	47	39
29	Uttar Pradesh	569	320	56.2	66	11.6	22	3.9	134	23.6	21	3.7	6	1.1	408	161
30	Uttarakhand	143	59	41.3	15	10.5	12	8.4	45	31.5	3	2.1	8	5.6	86	56
31	West Bengal	606	455	75.1	26	4.3	9	1.5	102	16.8	6	1.0	5	0.8	490	113
	Total	**13875**	**7328**	**52.8**	**1777**	**12.8**	**1059**	**7.6**	**3037**	**21.9**	**382**	**2.8**	**243**	**1.8**	**10164**	**3662**

*49 wells show no change in water level.