

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4065

ANSWERED ON 30.03.2026

CONSERVATION OF TRADITIONAL IRRIGATION SYSTEMS IN UTTARAKHAND

4065 # SHRI MAHENDRA BHATT:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any special action plan is being implemented in the State of Uttarakhand for the conservation and revival of drying water sources and traditional irrigation systems; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) & (b) Water, being State subject, the aspects related to water resources projects are planned, implemented and managed by the State Governments themselves as per their own resources and priorities. In order to supplement their efforts, Government of India provides technical and financial assistance to State Governments to encourage sustainable development and efficient management of water resources under various ongoing schemes.

Key initiatives undertaken by Government of India for water resources development and conservation in State of Uttarakhand are as follows:

- Two major projects of Uttarakhand namely Jamrani dam project and Lakhwar multipurpose project with ultimate irrigation potential of 57.07 thousand hectare and 33.78 thousand hectare respectively have been taken up with central assistance under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojna-Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme. Combined live storage of two projects is 473.12 million cubic metre.
- 422 Surface Minor Irrigation schemes with ultimate irrigation potential of 19.52 thousand hectare have been taken up with central assistance under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojna-Har Khet Ko Paani.
- Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) under this Ministry is implementing the National Aquifer Mapping (NAQUIM) programme under the scheme of Ground Water Management and Regulation. Aquifer mapping of about 25 lakh sq. km area in the country, including 11,430 sq. km in Uttarakhand, has been completed. Aquifer maps along with management plans have

been shared with States for implementation, which include suitable water conservation and recharge measures.

- CGWB has prepared a Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Groundwater (2020) in consultation with States/UTs which is a macro level plan indicating various structures for different terrain conditions of the country including Uttarakhand state. 15,523 structures have been identified for the Uttarakhand to enhance groundwater recharge. The Master Plan has been circulated to all the States/UTs for implementation.
- The Ministry of Jal Shakti has launched Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain and Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari programs to promote water conservation, rainwater harvesting, watershed development and rejuvenation of traditional water bodies. 1,300 traditional water bodies have been renovated, 646 recharge structures have been constructed and 18,356 watershed development works have been completed in Uttarakhand under Jal Shakti Abhiyan. Further, 3,626 works have been completed in Uttarakhand under Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari 2.0.
