

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1677

ANSWERED ON 03.08.2026

GROUNDWATER DEPLETION AND CONSERVATION

1677 SHRI L. K. SUDHISH:

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

- (a) whether Government has conducted any recent assessment of groundwater levels across the country;
- (b) the number of over-exploited, critical and semi-critical groundwater blocks, State-wise;
- (c) the measures being implemented to promote groundwater recharge and rainwater harvesting; and
- (d) whether any special assistance is being provided to water-stressed States to address groundwater depletion?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) & (b) The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) under Ministry of Jal Shakti regularly monitors groundwater levels across the country to assess changes in groundwater conditions. Dynamic Ground Water Resources of the country are assessed jointly by CGWB and the concerned State Governments/Union Territory. As per the National Compilation of Dynamic Ground Water Resources of India, 2025, the total Annual Ground Water Recharge has been assessed as 448.52 Billion Cubic Metres (BCM), the Annual Extractable Ground Water Resource as 407.75 BCM and the total Annual Ground Water Extraction as 247.22 BCM. The Stage of Ground Water Extraction, which represents the ratio of annual groundwater extraction to annual extractable groundwater resource, has been assessed as 60.63 per cent.

Out of 6,762 assessment units in the country which are generally Blocks/Taluks/Mandals/Tehsils, 730 assessment units have been categorised as Over-exploited, 201 as Critical, 758 as Semi-critical, 4,946 as Safe and 127 as Saline. The State/UT-wise details of assessment units categorized as Over-exploited, Critical and Semi-critical are given at **Annexure**.

(c) & (d) Water being a State subject, sustainable development and management of groundwater resources is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments including in water-stressed States and areas by providing technical guidance, policy support and financial assistance through various schemes and programmes. The major initiatives taken to promote groundwater recharge, conservation and rainwater harvesting are as follows:

- i. Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA) is an annual mission-mode campaign focusing on water conservation, rainwater harvesting, renovation of traditional and other water bodies/tanks, reuse and recharge structures, watershed development and intensive afforestation. More than 2 crore water conservation and artificial recharge works have been undertaken across the country through convergence under JSA.
- ii. The Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari (JSJB) initiative launched in 2024, promotes community participation in rainwater harvesting, groundwater recharge and water conservation. Thus far, more than 1.55 crore artificial groundwater recharge and water storage works have been constructed across the country under this initiative. Subsequently, the Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari–Catch the Rain (JSJB-CTR) campaign was launched on 1st June, 2026 to further promote rainwater harvesting and groundwater recharge across the country.
- iii. Mission Amrit Sarovar was launched in 2022 to develop and rejuvenate at least 75 water bodies in every district of the country. Approximately 69,000 Amrit Sarovars have been developed/rejuvenated, contributing to enhanced water storage and groundwater recharge.
- iv. The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs is implementing the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) 2.0 in all Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) across the country with a focus on water security including rejuvenation of water bodies and development of green spaces, which contribute to groundwater recharge. Under AMRUT/AMRUT 2.0, States/UTs have taken up 2,960 water body rejuvenation projects covering about 1.21 lakh acres and 4,171 parks and green space projects covering about 18,168 acres of permeable green area. Further, the Shallow Aquifer Management (SAM) initiative has been launched for scientific management of shallow urban aquifers.
- v. The Watershed Development Component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (WDC-PMKSY), implemented by the Department of Land Resources, promotes soil and moisture conservation, rainwater harvesting, groundwater recharge, drainage-line treatment and other watershed interventions in rainfed and degraded areas.
- vi. Under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)–Har Khet Ko Pani (HKKP), the Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation is implementing the Surface Minor Irrigation (SMI) and Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies schemes. The RRR of Water Bodies component promotes restoration, renovation and rejuvenation of existing water bodies to improve their storage capacity, enhance groundwater recharge and restore their irrigation potential.

- vii. M/o Jal Shakti has successfully demonstrated the efficacy of community led participatory ground water management through Atal Bhujal Yojana, which was implemented in 8,203 water stressed Gram Panchayats of 229 Blocks across 7 States, viz. Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. construction/rejuvenation of more than 83,000 rain water harvesting and recharge structures like check dams, ponds, shafts etc. were done under the scheme.
- viii. Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has completed National Aquifer Mapping and Management Programme (NAQUIM) covering about 25 lakh Sq. km of the mappable area of the country. Aquifer maps and management plans have been shared with the State Governments for implementation. Building upon this, NAQUIM 2.0 has been initiated for detailed aquifer mapping in priority areas such as water-stressed regions, groundwater quality-affected areas, coastal areas, urban agglomerations, industrial clusters and springsheds to facilitate scientific groundwater management and recharge planning.
- ix. Under the Viksit Bharat – Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (Gramin) [VB–G RAM G], water security through water-related works has been accorded priority, particularly in water-stressed areas. Under the planning framework, expenditure on water-related works may be prioritised with indicative thresholds of at least 65 per cent in Over-exploited and Critical blocks, 40 per cent in Semi-Critical blocks and 30 per cent in Safe blocks.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1677 TO BE ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 03.08.2026 REGARDING “GROUNDWATER DEPLETION AND CONSERVATION”.

State/UT wise breakup of the number of assessment units categorized under Over-exploited, critical and Semi-critical (OCS), Safe and Saline categories as per GWRA 2025												
S.No.	State/Union Territories	Total No. of Assessed Units	Safe		Semi-Critical		Critical		Over-Exploited		Saline	
			Nos.	%	Nos.	%	Nos.	%	Nos.	%	Nos.	%
	States											
1	Andhra Pradesh	679	601	88.5	24	3.5	3	0.4	12	1.8	39	5.74
2	Arunachal Pradesh	42	42	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Assam	245	244	99.59	1	0.41	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Bihar	535	471	88.04	49	9.16	12	2.24	3	0.56	0	0
5	Chhattisgarh	146	120	82.19	21	14.38	5	3.42	0	0	0	0
6	Goa	12	12	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Gujarat	252	181	71.83	31	12.30	3	1.19	25	9.92	12	4.76
8	Haryana	143	31	21.68	15	10.49	6	4.20	91	63.64	0	0
9	Himachal Pradesh	26	26	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Jharkhand	263	240	91.25	12	4.56	5	1.90	6	2.28	0	0
11	Karnataka	237	145	61.18	36	15.19	11	4.64	45	18.99	0	0
12	Kerala	152	123	80.92	27	17.76	2	1.32	0	0	0	0
13	Madhya Pradesh	317	221	69.72	64	20.19	6	1.89	26	8.20	0	0
14	Maharashtra	359	306	85.24	40	11.14	5	1.39	7	1.95	1	0.28
15	Manipur	9	9	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16	Meghalaya	40	40	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	Mizoram	26	26	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Nagaland	52	52	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Odisha	314	298	94.90	10	3.18	0	0	0	0	6	1.91
20	Punjab	153	17	11.11	15	9.80	10	6.54	111	72.55	0	0
21	Rajasthan	302	36	11.92	27	8.94	23	7.62	213	70.53	3	0.99
22	Sikkim	38	38	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	Tamil Nadu	313	121	38.66	61	19.49	23	7.35	103	32.91	5	1.60
24	Telangana	620	473	76.29	105	16.94	19	3.06	23	3.71	0	0
25	Tripura	59	59	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26	Uttar Pradesh	836	563	67.34	171	20.45	48	5.74	54	6.46	0	0
27	Uttarakhand	20	16	80	4	20	0	0	0	0	0	0
28	West Bengal	345	242	70.14	34	9.86	9	2.61	0	0	60	17.39
29	Andaman And Nicobar	9	9	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30	Chandigarh	1	1	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	3	3	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32	Delhi	34	7	20.59	6	17.65	11	32.35	10	29.41	0	0
33	Jammu And Kashmir	149	149	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34	Ladakh	18	17	94.44	1	5.56	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	Lakshadweep	5	4	80	1	20	0	0	0	0	0	0
36	Puducherry	8	3	37.50	3	37.50	0	0	1	12.50	1	12.50
	Grand Total	6762	4946	73.14	758	11.21	201	2.97	730	10.80	127	1.88
Note-												
Blockwise-Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Andaman & Nicobar Island, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Lakshadweep												
Talukawise -Goa, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry												
Mandalwise - Andhra Pradesh, Telangana												
Districtwise - Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu												
UT- Chandigarh												
Tehsilwise -Delhi												
