

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 96

ANSWERED ON 20.07.2026

GROUNDWATER DEPLETION

96. Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar:

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

- (a) the number of assessment units categorised as over-exploited, critical and semi-critical in the latest groundwater assessment;
- (b) States showing continued deterioration since the previous assessment; and
- (c) district-specific interventions initiated?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) & (b) Dynamic Ground Water Resources of the country are assessed annually jointly by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) and State Governments. As per the Ground Water Resources assessment 2025, out of the total 6762 Assessment Units (Blocks/Taluks/Mandals) in the country, 730 (10.80%) units have been categorized as 'Over-exploited' indicating ground water extraction exceeding the annually replenishable ground water recharge. Further, 201 units (2.97 %) have been categorized as 'Critical', 758 units (11.21 %) as 'Semi-critical' and 4946 units (73.14 %) are in 'Safe' category. Additionally, 127 assessment units (1.88%) are categorized as 'saline'.

The Dynamic Ground Water Resource Assessment is carried out annually to assess changes in groundwater recharge, groundwater extraction and the Stage of Groundwater Extraction, which is the ratio of annual groundwater extraction to the annual extractable groundwater resource expressed as a percentage. The State/UT-wise comparison indicates that the Stage of Groundwater Extraction has remained broadly stable between 2024 and 2025, with the national Stage of Groundwater Extraction increasing marginally from 60.48% to 60.63%. However, compared to 2017, the national Stage of Groundwater Extraction has declined from 63.33% to 60.63%, indicating an overall improvement in the groundwater scenario. The State/UT-wise comparison of the Stage of Groundwater Extraction for 2025 compared with 2024 is given at **Annexure**.

(c) Water being a State subject, sustainable development and management of groundwater resources is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments across all districts of the state. However, the Central Government facilitates the efforts of the State Governments by way of technical and financial assistance through its various schemes and projects. The major steps taken in this direction, including the district-level initiatives are provided below:

- i. Efforts of the Government for augmenting the groundwater resources of the country are mainly channeled through the flagship campaign of Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA), an annual mission mode programme for taking up water harvesting and artificial recharge activities. As per the available information, under JSA, more than 2 cr water conservation and artificial recharge works have been taken up through convergence in the country so far, which has played a key role in enhancing the sustainability of ground water resources in water-stressed districts.
- ii. To further strengthen the momentum of JSA, Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari (JSJB) initiative has been launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister in 2024 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 districts. More than 1.55 crore no. of artificial groundwater recharge and storage works have been constructed across the country under this initiative. Subsequently, on 01 June 2026 JSJB-Catch The Rain (CTR) has been launched nation-wide for water conservation and artificial recharge.
- iii. 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 across 80 districts in 7 States. Construction of various rain water harvesting and recharge structures like check dams, ponds, shafts etc. as well as promotion of micro irrigation was taken up through convergence and by use of incentive funds under the scheme.
- iv. Mission Amrit Sarovar was launched by the Government of India which aimed at developing and rejuvenating at least 75 water bodies in each district of the country. As an outcome nearly 69,000 Amrit Sarovars have been constructed/rejuvenated in the country leading to enhanced water storage and ground water recharge.
- v. The Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare (DA&FW) has been implementing the Per Drop More Crop component since 2015-16 to improve on-farm water-use efficiency through micro-irrigation. The scheme supports efficient irrigation practices in districts across the country, thereby reducing groundwater extraction and promoting sustainable use of groundwater resources.
- vi. CGWB successfully completed NAQUIM 1.0 covering country's mappable area of about 25 lakh sq. km and provided a macro-level understanding of our nation's groundwater resources. CGWB has embarked upon NAQUIM 2.0, focusing on water stressed districts and quality affected pockets. Under NAQUIM 2.0 state-of-the-art technologies are harnessed, for generating highly detailed scientific data which serve as an important tool for making informed decisions for sustainable groundwater management.
- vii. CGWB has also prepared the Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Groundwater- 2020 for the entire country and shared with States/UTs. The Master Plan serves as a technical guide for planning and implementation of rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge structures in districts based on local hydrogeological conditions.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 96 TO BE ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 20.07.2026 REGARDING “GROUNDWATER DEPLETION”.

Comparison of Stage of Groundwater Extraction for States/UTs of 2025 compared with 2024 and 2017

S. No.	States / Union Territories	Stage of Ground Water Extraction (%) 2025	Stage of Ground Water Extraction (%) 2024	Stage of Ground Water Extraction (%) 2017	Difference in Stage of Ground Water Extraction (%) 2025-2024	Difference in Stage of Ground Water Extraction (%) 2025-2017
1	Andhra Pradesh	31.51	29.83	44.15	1.67	-12.64
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0.41	0.39	0.28	0.02	0.13
3	Assam	14.45	12.61	11.25	1.84	3.20
4	Bihar	46.20	45.54	45.76	0.66	0.44
5	Chhattisgarh	48.18	47.32	44.43	0.86	3.75
6	Goa	23.30	22.91	33.50	0.38	-10.21
7	Gujarat	55.95	54.21	63.89	1.75	-7.94
8	Haryana	136.75	135.96	136.91	0.79	-0.16
9	Himachal Pradesh	38.50	35.48	86.37	3.02	-47.86
10	Jharkhand	32.89	31.43	27.73	1.46	5.16
11	Karnataka	66.49	68.44	69.87	-1.95	-3.38
12	Kerala	49.95	53.78	51.27	-3.84	-1.32
13	Madhya Pradesh	59.32	58.40	54.76	0.92	4.56
14	Maharashtra	51.79	52.99	54.62	-1.20	-2.83
15	Manipur	9.09	8.00	1.44	1.10	7.66
16	Meghalaya	5.24	4.60	2.28	0.64	2.95
17	Mizoram	4.03	3.95	3.82	0.08	0.21
18	Nagaland	4.72	4.72	0.99	0.01	3.74
19	Odisha	48.75	48.23	42.18	0.52	6.57
20	Punjab	156.36	156.87	165.77	-0.51	-9.41
21	Rajasthan	147.11	149.86	139.88	-2.75	7.23
22	Sikkim	5.87	5.85	0.06	0.02	5.81
23	Tamil Nadu	73.50	74.26	80.94	-0.76	-7.43
24	Telangana	46.69	45.91	65.45	0.78	-18.76
25	Tripura	10.06	9.48	7.88	0.59	2.19
26	Uttar Pradesh	70.00	70.45	70.18	-0.45	-0.17
27	Uttarakhand	53.92	53.54	56.83	0.38	-2.91
28	West Bengal	45.19	45.63	44.60	-0.44	0.59
29	Andaman & Nicobar	2.27	2.08	2.74	0.19	-0.47
30	Chandigarh	67.00	66.13	89.00	0.87	-22.00
31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	40.45	142.17	37.45	-101.73	3.00
32	Delhi	92.10	100.77	119.61	-8.67	-27.50
33	Jammu And Kashmir	24.73	22.28	29.47	2.46	-4.74
34	Ladakh	30.93	30.93	NA	0.00	NA
35	Lakshadweep	57.79	61.32	65.99	-3.52	-8.20
36	Puducherry	75.98	75.91	74.33	0.07	1.65
	Grand Total	60.63	60.48	63.33	0.15	-2.70
