GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES,
RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †3115
ANSWERED ON 03.08.2017

GROUND WATER LEVEL IN URBAN AREAS

†3115. SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI PATIL

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ground water level has dropped to an alarming level in the urban areas of the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government proposes to lay down water conservation laws so as to increase the ground water level;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action plan of the Government for bringing the falling ground water level back to normal level?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION

(DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) carries out ground water monitoring, four times a year, on regional scale through a network of observation wells in the Country. Comparison and analysis of Pre-monsoon (2017) water level data collected by CGWB with the decadal average (2007-2016) indicates decline in ground water level in more than 60% of the wells in most of the urban areas of the Country. Details are given at **Annexure.**

(b) to (d) The National Water Policy (2012) formulated by Ministry of Water Resources, RD & GR, inter -alia, advocates conservation, promotion and protection of water and highlights the need for augmenting the availability of water through rain water harvesting, direct use of rainfall and other management measures. The National Water Policy (2012) has been forwarded to all State Governments/ UTs and concerned Ministries/ Departments of Central Government for adoption of the policy.

CGWB has prepared a conceptual document entitled "Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water in India" during 2013, involving ground water scientists/experts. The Master Plan envisages construction of 1.11 crore rain water harvesting and artificial recharge structures in the Country at an estimated cost of Rs. 79,178 Crores to harness 85BCM (Billion Cubic Metre)

Contd…p/2

of water. The augmented ground water resources will enhance the availability of water for drinking, domestic, industrial and irrigation purpose. The Master Plan has been circulated to all State Governments for implementation.

Ministry of Water Resources, RD & GR has circulated a Model Bill to all the States/UTs to enable them to enact suitable ground water legislation for its regulation and development which includes provision of rain water harvesting. So far, 15 States/UTs have adopted and implemented the ground water legislation on the lines of Model bill. 30 States/UTs have made rain water harvesting mandatory by enacting laws or by formulating rules & regulations or by including provisions in building bye-laws or through suitable Government Orders.

Department of Land Resources is currently implementing 8214 watershed development projects in 28 States (except Goa) covering an area of about 39.07 million ha. under the Watershed Development Component (WDC) of the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) principally for development of rainfed portions of net cultivated area and culturable wastelands. The major activities taken up under the WDC-PMKSY, inter-alia, include ridge area treatment, drainage line afforestation, soil and moisture conservation, rain water harvesting, horticulture, pasture development, creation of livelihoods for asset-less person, etc.

Ministry of Urban Development has circulated its Model Building Bye-Laws (2016) to all State Governments which, inter-alia, incorporates provisions for Rain Water Harvesting. Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) mandates the States to formulate a policy and action plan for rain water harvesting structures in all commercial, public buildings and new buildings on plots of 300 sq.m and above.

Under MGNREGS (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme), rain water harvesting structures, watershed management works and renovation of traditional water bodies are undertaken to improve the ground water situation. To bring about the convergence among the schemes-MGNREGS, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojna (PMKSY) and Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP), the Ministry of Rural Development has developed Natural Resource Management Framework under MGNREGS within the overall framework of PMKSY.

*****

Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Q.No. 3115 for reply on 03.08.2017 regarding "Ground Water Level In Urban Areas"

S. No.	Name of the City	No. of wells Analysed	Rise		Fall	
			No.	%	No.	%
1	Mumbai City	3	2	66.7	1	33.3
2	Mumbai Suburban	1	1	100.0	0	0.0
3	Delhi	89	56	62.9	33	37.1
4	Kolkata	14	2	14.3	12	85.7
5	Chennai	11	1	9.1	10	90.9
6	Bangalore	25	3	12.0	22	88.0
7	Hyderabad	20	9	45.0	11	55.0
8	Ahmedabad	7	4	57.1	3	42.9
9	Nagpur	7	4	57.1	3	42.9
10	Nashik	4	2	50.0	2	50.0
11	Pune	5	2	40.0	3	60.0
12	Kannur	10	3	30.0	7	70.0
13	Kochi	23	11	47.8	12	52.2
14	Kollam	9	5	55.6	4	44.4
15	Kozhikode	10	3	30.0	7	70.0
16	Malappuram	10	3	30.0	7	70.0
17	Thiruvananthapuram	14	1	7.1	13	92.9
18	Thrissur	16	8	50.0	8	50.0
19	Patna	6	2	33.3	4	66.7
20	Ranchi	17	2	11.8	15	88.2
21	Jamshedpur	15	10	66.7	5	33.3
22	Dhanbad	15	8	53.3	7	46.7
23	Bhopal	16	11	68.8	5	31.3
24	Indore	20	7	35.0	13	65.0
25	Jabalpur	19	6	31.6	13	68.4
26	Gwalior	1	0	0.0	1	100.0
27	Guwahati	31	12	38.7	19	61.3
28	Ludhiana	9	0	0.0	9	100.0
29	Amritsar	5	0	0.0	5	100.0
30	Faridabad	2	0	0.0	2	100.0
31	Chandigarh-UT	10	1	10.0	8	80.0
32	Coimbatore	4	0	0.0	4	100.0
33	Madurai	1	0	0.0	1	100.0
34	Vijayawada	1	0	0.0	1	100.0
35	Vishakapatnam	14	2	14.3	13	92.9
36	Dehradun	19	13	68.4	6	31.6
37	Rajkot	5	3	60.0	2	40.0
38	Surat	2	2	100.0	0	0.0
39	Vadodara	5	3	60.0	2	40.0
40	Jaipur	7	3	42.9	4	57.1
41	Jodhpur	7	7	100.0	0	0.0
42	Kota	2	1	50.0	1	50.0
43	Allahabad	1	0	0.0	1	100.0
44	Ghaziabad	1	0	0.0	1	100.0
45	Kanpur	4	0	0.0	4	100.0
46	Lucknow	4	0	0.0	4	100.0
47	Meerut	1	0	0.0	1	100.0
48	Varanasi	2	0	0.0	2	100.0
TOTAL		**381**	**148**	**38.8**	**233**	**61.2**