

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UN-STARRED QUESTION NO 613
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19th DECEMBER, 2017

SHORTAGE OF WATER

No.613 SHRIMATI MEENAKSHI LEKHI

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state

- (a) Whether the Government is aware of the extreme shortage of water in metropolitan cities in the country and if so, reasons therefor;
- (b) Whether the Government is planning to rain water harvesting mandatory in such cities and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the other steps being taken by the Government to promote water conservation in these cities; and
- (d) Whether 48% of water supply in urban areas comes from the ground if so, the measures being taken by the Government to maintain the ground water level

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY
OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI)

- (a) Madam, none of the Metropolitan Cities (having population more than 10 lacs) have reported extreme shortage of water. However, shortages may occur seasonally and in certain pockets of the city, which may have no distribution system.

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- (b)&(c) The Model Building Bye Laws, 2016, issued by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, have incorporated the provisions of Rainwater Harvesting. Barring the States / UTs of Manipur, Sikkim, Mizoram and Lakshdweep, all the States / UTs have incorporated the provisions in their respective building bye laws.

Under flagship mission of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs - AMRUT, Rain Water Harvesting is one of the reforms which mandates that "State to formulate a policy and action plan for having Rain water harvesting structures in all commercial, public buildings and new buildings on plot size of 300 square meters and above".

Several measures have been taken up by the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation to promote water conservation in various cities which include circulation of the National Water Policy (2012), a Model Bill to enable the States / UTs to enact a suitable ground water legislation, Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water in India and Conducting mass awareness programs to promote Rain Water Harvesting and artificial recharge to ground water.

- (d) Yes, almost half of the water supply in urban areas comes from ground water sources. The Rain Water Harvesting being implemented by the States will help in recharging the ground water aquifer.
