

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES,  
RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †2197  
ANSWERED ON 08.03.2018

**GROUND WATER TABLE IN URBAN AREAS**

†2197. SHRI ARVIND SAWANT

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

- (a) whether the ground water table has gone critically low in urban areas of the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to enact any water harvesting legislation to increase the ground water table in these areas;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the details of the ways in which the Government is likely to bring the decreasing water table to normal level in the said areas of the country?

**ANSWER**

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

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(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 about 61% of the wells in most of the urban areas of the country. City-wise details of rise and fall in ground water level are given at **Annexure**.

(b) & (c) 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.

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.

(d) Water being a State subject, steps for augmentation, conservation and efficient management of water resources to ensure sustainability and availability are primarily undertaken by the respective State Governments, however, steps taken by the Central Government for conservation of ground water are available at the following URL [http://mowr.gov.in/sites/default/files/MeasuresForGW-Depletion\\_1.pdf](http://mowr.gov.in/sites/default/files/MeasuresForGW-Depletion_1.pdf).

**Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of Unstarred Q.No. † 2197 to be answered in Lok Sabha on 08.03.2018 regarding “Ground Water Table in Urban Areas”**

**Decadal Water Level Fluctuation  
With Mean [Pre-monsoon (2007 to 2016)] and Pre-monsoon 2017 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
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>381</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>38.8</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>61.2</b>