

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES,
RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1563
ANSWERED ON 26.07.2018

GROUND WATER DEPLETION

1563. SHRI OM PRAKASH YADAV
 SHRIMATI SANTOSH AHLAWAT

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

- (a) whether recently the Government has announced setting up of a panel of secretaries to tackle the issue of ground water depletion in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is a fact that in certain regions of the States of Rajasthan and Bihar especially in Jhunjhunu and Siwan Districts depletion of ground water rate is too high in comparison to other States of the country; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the preparedness plan of the Government to tackle this major problem in the country especially in the said States?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a) In order to ensure sustainable withdrawal and effective utilization of ground water and its management, an Inter Ministerial Committee has been constituted, the current tenure of which is till December, 2018. Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, RD & GR is the convener of the Committee which consists of Secretaries of Ministries of Rural Development, Drinking Water and Sanitation, Panchayati Raj, Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and Environment & Forests and Climate Change.

Various issues related to groundwater depletion, low cost artificial recharge structures, protection of groundwater recharge zones, aquifer management plans and research and development initiatives in association with pioneer organizations / institutions in groundwater sector have been discussed by the Committee.

(b) As per latest assessment (year 2013), carried out by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) jointly with State Governments, out of 248 assessment units in Rajasthan, 164 units have been categorized as 'Over-exploited'. There is no 'Over-exploited' assessment unit in Bihar. State-wise details of categorization of assessment units of the Country are given at **Annexure**.

All the 8 assessment units of Jhunjhunu district, Rajasthan are 'Over-exploited', whereas, all the assessment units of Siwan district, Bihar are 'Safe' implying ample scope of ground water development in the district.

(c) Water being a State subject, initiatives on water management including conservation and rainwater harvesting / artificial recharge to ground water is primarily States' responsibility. 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.

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of Unstarred Question No. 1563 to be answered in Lok Sabha on 26.07.2018 regarding “Ground Water Depletion”

**CATEGORIZATION OF BLOCKS/ MANDALS/ TALUKS IN INDIA
(2013)**

| S.No. | States / Union Territories | Total No. of Assessed Units | Safe | | Semi-critical | | Critical | | Over-Exploited | | Saline | |
|-------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|------------|----------|----------------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| | States | | Nos. | % | Nos. | % | Nos. | % | Nos. | % | Nos. | % |
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 670 | 497 | 74 | 54 | 8 | 17 | 3 | 61 | 9 | 41 | 6 |
| 2 | Arunachal Pradesh | 11 | 11 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 3 | Assam | 27 | 27 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 4 | Bihar | 534 | 520 | 97 | 14 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 5 | Chhattisgarh | 146 | 125 | 86 | 18 | 12 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 6 | Delhi | 27 | 5 | 19 | 7 | 26 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 56 | 0 | 0 |
| 7 | Goa | 12 | 12 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 8 | Gujarat | 223 | 175 | 78 | 9 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 23 | 10 | 10 | 4 |
| 9 | Haryana | 119 | 30 | 25 | 11 | 9 | 14 | 12 | 64 | 54 | 0 | 0 |
| 10 | Himachal Pradesh | 8 | 6 | 75 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 13 | 1 | 13 | 0 | 0 |
| 11 | Jammu & Kashmir | 22 | 22 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 12 | Jharkhand | 260 | 244 | 94 | 10 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| 13 | Karnataka | 176 | 98 | 56 | 21 | 12 | 14 | 8 | 43 | 24 | 0 | 0 |
| 14 | Kerala | 152 | 131 | 86 | 18 | 12 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 15 | Madhya Pradesh | 313 | 228 | 73 | 58 | 19 | 2 | 1 | 25 | 8 | 0 | 0 |
| 16 | Maharashtra | 353 | 324 | 92 | 19 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 9 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| 17 | Manipur | 9 | 9 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 18 | Meghalaya | 11 | 11 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 19 | Mizoram | 22 | 22 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 20 | Nagaland | 11 | 11 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 21 | Odisha | 314 | 308 | 98 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 2 |
| 22 | Punjab | 138 | 26 | 19 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 105 | 76 | 0 | 0 |
| 23 | Rajasthan | 248 | 44 | 18 | 28 | 11 | 9 | 4 | 164 | 66 | 3 | 1 |
| 24 | Sikkim | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 25 | Tamil Nadu | 1139 | 429 | 38 | 212 | 19 | 105 | 9 | 358 | 31 | 35 | 3 |
| 26 | Telangana | 443 | 311 | 70 | 74 | 17 | 12 | 3 | 46 | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| 27 | Tripura | 39 | 39 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 28 | Uttar Pradesh | 820 | 603 | 74 | 45 | 5 | 59 | 7 | 113 | 14 | 0 | 0 |
| 29 | Uttarakhand | 18 | 16 | 89 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 30 | West Bengal | 268 | 191 | 71 | 76 | 28 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Total (States) | 6533 | 4475 | 68 | 678 | 10 | 252 | 4 | 1033 | 16 | 95 | 1 |
| | Union Territories | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Andaman & Nicobar | 34 | 34 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2 | Chandigarh | 1 | 1 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 3 | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 1 | 1 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 4 | Daman & Diu | 2 | 1 | 50 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 50 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 5 | Lakshadweep | 9 | 6 | 67 | 3 | 33 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 6 | Puducherry | 4 | 2 | 50 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 25 | 1 | 25 |
| | Total (UTs) | 51 | 45 | 88 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| | Grand Total | 6584 | 4520 | 69 | 681 | 10 | 253 | 4 | 1034 | 16 | 96 | 1 |
