

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES,
RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2621
ANSWERED ON 02.08.2018

LOSS OF POTABLE WATER

2621. SHRI KAUSHAL KISHORE

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any study to assess the total loss of potable water due to wastage in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any new initiatives have been taken by the Government to encourage water conservation in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

- (a) No, Madam. No such study has been conducted by Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.
- (b) In view of (a) above, does not arise.
- (c) & (d) Water being a State subject, steps for augmentation, conservation and efficient management of water resources are primarily undertaken by the respective State Governments. In order to supplement their efforts, Central Government provides technical and financial assistance to them through various schemes and programmes. The steps taken by the Central Government to encourage water conservation is **annexed**.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (c) & (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2621 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 02.08.2018 REGARDING “LOSS OF POTABLE WATER”

- (i) Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR, RD & GR) has launched a fortnightly contest “Jal Bachao, Video Banao, Puraskar Pao” on 10th July, 2018. In the contest, any Indian citizen can upload their video entries on YouTube and enter the publicly accessible link on Video link section of MyGov contest page at www.mygov.in. The videos should capture the efforts, significant contributions, best practices in the field of water conservation, optimum water utilization and Water Resources, Development and Management in different parts of the country. Any innovative advertisement / commercial on water conservation is also welcome.
- (ii) Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs has brought out Model Building Bye Laws (MBBL), 2016 which have the provision for Rainwater Harvesting. As per MBBL-2016, it is mandatory to have rainwater harvesting provision for all plots with more than 100 sq.mtr area. As per MBBL-2016, rainwater harvesting has been made mandatory for all the public and commercial buildings. These model building bye-laws have been shared with the States for adoption. 32 States / UTs have adopted rainwater harvesting feature of MBBL-2016.
- (iii) The Government has launched National Water Mission with the objective of conservation of water, minimizing wastage and ensuring its more equitable distribution both across and within States through integrated water resources development and management.
- (iv) Water conservation and water harvesting structures to augment ground water constitute a special focus area for MGNREGA works and about 2/3rd of the expenditure is directly related to construction of such structures.
- (v) Central Government has launched Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) with the vision of extending the coverage of irrigation ‘Har Khet ko Pani’ and improving water use efficiency ‘More crop per drop’ in a focused manner with end to end solution on source creation, distribution, management, field application and extension activities. Ministry of Agriculture is promoting efficient water conveyance and precision water application devices like drips, sprinklers, pivots, construction of micro-irrigation structures, etc.
- (vi) Some other initiatives/measures taken by the Central Government for conservation and improvement of availability of ground water are as under:
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- Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has prepared a conceptual document titled “Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water in India” during the year 2013 envisaging construction of 1.11 Crore Rainwater Harvesting and Artificial Recharge structures in the country to harness 85 Billion Cubic Meters (BCM) of water. The augmented ground water resources will enhance the availability of water for various purposes. The Master Plan has been circulated to all State Governments for implementation.
- CGWB has taken up Aquifer Mapping and Management programme (NAQUIM) under the scheme of Ground Water Management and Regulation. The Aquifer Mapping is aimed to delineate aquifer disposition and their characterization for preparation of aquifer/area specific ground water management plans, with community participation.
- ‘Atal Bhujal Yojana’, envisaging sustainable management of ground water with emphasis on demand side management through community participation in identified over-exploited and ground water stressed areas in priority States of Haryana, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Karnataka has been proposed.
- This Ministry 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.
- Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA), constituted under “The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986” for the purpose of regulation and control of ground water development and management in the country, has so far notified 162 areas in the country for the purpose of regulation of ground water.
