

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †2962
ANSWERED ON 11.07.2019

WATER CONSERVATION

†2962. SHRIMATI RANJAN BEN DHANANJAY BHATT

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government is considering to discuss the issue of water conservation with the State Governments; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI & SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA)

(a) & (b) An 'Inter Ministerial Committee' under the Chairmanship of Secretary (WR, RD & GR) has been constituted to take forward the subject of 'Water Conservation Related Activities for Optimum Utilization of Monsoon Rainfall' which meets from time to time to discuss the issue of water conservation. The committee includes officers from different States/UTs. Last meeting of the Inter-Ministerial Committee was held on 01/05/2019.

Cabinet Secretary discussed the issue of water conservation with the Chief Secretaries of the States through video-conference on 21.05.2019.

The issue was also discussed with the concerned Ministers and officials of the State Governments by Minister Jal Shakti in a meeting held on 11.6.2019.

Hon'ble Prime Minister has written a letter to all sarpanchs on 08.06.2019 regarding the importance of water conservation and harvesting and exhorted them to adopt all appropriate measures to make water conservation a mass movement.

Government of India has launched the Jal Shakti Abhiyan which is a time bound campaign with a mission mode approach intended to improve water availability including ground water conditions in the water stressed blocks.

Water being a State subject, initiatives on water management including conservation and artificial recharge to ground water in the Country is primarily States' responsibility. The important measures taken by the Central Government for conservation, management of ground water and effective implementation of rain water harvesting in the country are at the following URL:

http://mowr.gov.in/sites/default/files/Steps_to_control_water_depletion_Jun2019.pdf