

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4186**  
ANSWERED ON 18.07.2019

**GROUND WATER DEPLETION IN BIHAR**

4186. DR. ALOK KUMAR SUMAN

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any scientific study regarding depletion of ground water of the country, specially in the State of Bihar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action plan of the Government to tackle the depletion of ground water; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI & SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA)

(a) & (b) The Dynamic Ground Water Resources of the country are being periodically assessed jointly by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) and State Governments. As per the 2017 assessment, out of the total 6881 assessment units (Block/ Taluks/ Mandals/ watersheds/ Firkas) in the country, 1186 units in 17 States/UTs have been categorized as 'Over-exploited' where the total Current Annual Ground Water Extraction is more than Annual Extractable Ground Water Resource. Categorization of 'Over Exploited' Blocks/ Mandals/ Talukas in India (2017) are given at **Annexure**. Bihar has 12 over-exploited units.

(c) & (d) Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has been constituted under Section 3(3) of the 'Environment (Protection) Act, 1986' for the purpose of regulation and control of ground water development and management in the Country. CGWA grants No Objection Certificates for ground water abstraction, in 23 States/UTs, through guidelines which are modified from time to time. Rest of the States / UTs are regulating ground water development through their own Acts, notifications or Government Orders. Further, CGWA has also appointed the District Magistrate / District Collector of each Revenue District and Regional Directors of CGWB in these States as Authorized Officers, with power to enforce compliance of NOC conditions.

As per information received from Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, the Model Building Bye Laws, 2016, has been issued for guidance of the States/UTs which has a chapter on 'Rainwater Harvesting'. The provisions of this chapter are applicable to all the buildings. 32 States / UTs have adopted the rainwater harvesting provisions. The implementation of the rainwater harvesting policy comes within the purview of the State Government/Urban Local Body / Urban Development Authority.

In addition, for enhancing water use efficiency, the Central Government is promoting micro-irrigation systems, Command Area Development works, Participatory Irrigation Management, recycle and reuse of water amongst others.

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

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.

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 in the country are at the following URL:

[http://mowr.gov.in/sites/default/files/Steps\\_to\\_control\\_water\\_depletion\\_Jun2019.pdf](http://mowr.gov.in/sites/default/files/Steps_to_control_water_depletion_Jun2019.pdf)

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**ANNEXURE**

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) & (b) of Unstarred Question No. 4186 to be answered in Lok Sabha on 18.07.2019 regarding “Groundwater Depletion in Bihar”.

**Categorization of ‘Over Exploited’ Blocks/ Mandals/ Talukas in India (2017)**

S.No.	States / Union Territories	Total No. of Assessed Units	Over-Exploited	
			Nos.	%
	<b>States</b>			
1	Andhra Pradesh	670	45	7
2	Arunachal Pradesh	11	0	0
3	Assam	28	0	0
4	Bihar	534	12	2
5	Chhattisgarh	146	0	0
6	Delhi	34	22	65
7	Goa	12	0	0
8	Gujarat	248	25	10
9	Haryana	128	78	61
10	Himachal Pradesh	8	4	50
11	Jammu & Kashmir	22	0	0
12	Jharkhand	260	3	1
13	Karnataka	176	45	26
14	Kerala	152	1	1
15	Madhya Pradesh	313	22	7
16	Maharashtra	353	11	3
17	Manipur	9	0	0
18	Meghalaya	11	0	0
19	Mizoram	26	0	0
20	Nagaland	11	0	0
21	Odisha	314	0	0
22	Punjab	138	109	79
23	Rajasthan	295	185	63
24	Sikkim	4	0	0
25	Tamil Nadu	1166	462	40
26	Telangana	584	70	12
27	Tripura	59	0	0
28	Uttar Pradesh*	830	91	11
29	Uttarakhand	18	0	0
30	West Bengal **	268	0	0
	<b>Total States</b>	<b>6828</b>	<b>1185</b>	<b>17</b>
	<b>Union Territories</b>			
1	Andaman & Nicobar	36	0	0
2	Chandigarh	1	0	0
3	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	0	0
4	Daman & Diu	2	0	0
5	Lakshdweep	9	0	0
6	Puducherry	4	1	25
	<b>Total UTs</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>6881</b>	<b>1186</b>	<b>17</b>

**Note**

**Blocks-** Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Jharkhand, Kerala, M.P., Manipur, Mizoram, Orissa,

**Taluks -**Karnataka, Goa, Gujarat, Maharashtra

**Mandals -** Andhra Pradesh, Telangana

**Districts/Valley-** Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir,

**Islands -** Lakshadweep, Andaman & Nicobar Islands

**Firka-**Tamil Nadu

**Region -** Puducherry

**UT -** Chandigarh, Dadar & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu

**Tehsil-NCT** Delhi

\***Uttar Pradesh:** There are total 820 block and 10 Cities

\*\*The Ground Water resources assessment as on 2013 been considered.

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