

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA  
REJUVENATION  
**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1522**

ANSWERED ON 15.12.2022

**PROJECTS TO RAISE GROUND WATER LEVEL**

1522                      SHRI SANJAY SETH

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:-

- (a) the details of the projects being implemented by the Ministry to raise ground water level across the country, State-wise;
- (b) the details of the ongoing projects in Jharkhand under the Ministry;
- (c) the details of the funds allocated for the above purpose;
- (d) whether any targets have been fixed for the next three years for Jharkhand by the Ministry; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) Water being the State subject, the efforts to raise groundwater level including effective rainwater harvesting etc come under States' mandate, however, Central Government has taken a number of important measures in this regard in the country, which can be seen at [http://jalshakti-dowr.gov.in/sites/default/files/Steps%20taken%20by%20the%20Central%20Govt%20for%20water\\_depletion\\_july2022.pdf](http://jalshakti-dowr.gov.in/sites/default/files/Steps%20taken%20by%20the%20Central%20Govt%20for%20water_depletion_july2022.pdf)

Further, Central Government works in close collaboration with States/UTs through various initiatives/schemes like Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA), Atal Bhujal Yojana (in certain water stressed areas), MGNREGA, PMKSY-Watershed development etc to supplement the efforts of States/UTs for sustainable management of groundwater. The JSA was launched in 2019 with the primary aim to effectively harvest the monsoon rainfall through creation of artificial recharge structures, watershed management, recharge and reuse structures, intensive afforestation and awareness generation etc. The JSA has continued during 2021 and 2022 which were launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister and Hon'ble President of India respectively.

Central Government is implementing Atal Bhujal Yojana with an outlay of Rs. 6,000 crore, in collaboration with States, in certain water stressed areas of Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. The primary aim of the scheme is demand side management through scientific means involving the local communities at village levels leading to sustainable groundwater management in the targeted areas.

Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has taken up National Aquifer Mapping and Management (NAQUIM) programme under Ground Water Management & Regulation scheme (Central Sector scheme) with the objectives to delineate the aquifers, characterize them and prepare groundwater management plans. Out of the identified 25 lakh Sq Km area for coverage under NAQUIM studies, so far, an area of 24.4 lakh Sq Km has already been covered. The entire 25 lakh sq km is targeted to be covered by March 2023. The study reports including recommendations in this regard are shared with States/UTs for suitable use.

During FY 2021-22, CGWB has taken up demonstrative innovative artificial recharge project with cumulative outlay of Rs 170.00 Cr in certain identified water stressed districts of Rajasthan and Haryana.

Further, Hon'ble Prime Minister launched Amrit Sarovar Mission on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2022. The Mission is aimed at developing and rejuvenating 75 water bodies in each district of the country as a part of celebration of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.

**(b) & (c)** The entire identified area of 76705 Sq. Km. has been completed by the CGWB in Jharkhand under NAQUIM study. The NAQUIM study report along with management plans are shared with States Government for suitable interventions.

Water harvesting/recharge works in the country including Jharkhand is generally taken up through MGNREGA. The details of expenditure with respect to Ongoing and Completed projects in Jharkhand as per MGNREGA web-site maintained by Department of Rural Development, Government of India for FY 2021-22 are Rs 56.81 Cr and Rs. 83.75 Cr respectively. Similarly, for FY 2022-23 the expenditure for ongoing and completed projects is Rs. 38.65 Cr and Rs. 9.60 Cr respectively.

Department of Land Resources is implementing PMKSY-Watershed Development scheme in 28 States/UTs including Jharkhand for the development of rain-fed and degraded areas. The activities undertaken inter alia include ridge area treatment, drainage line treatment, soil and moisture conservation, rain water harvesting, nursery raising, afforestation, horticulture, pasture development, livelihoods for asset-less persons etc. Central Government approved continuation of the scheme during the period FY 2021-22 to FY 2025-26 and a total of 30 watershed projects covering an area of 1.48 lakh Ha at a total cost of Rs 393.53 Crore have been sanctioned for Jharkhand and Rs. 27.27 Crore released as Central assistance. As per information received from Jharkhand, since 2014-15 to 2021-22 total 4690 water harvesting structures have been created / rejuvenated and an additional area of 5233 Ha has been brought under protective irrigation.

**(d)** Water being State subject the targets/timelines for sustainable management of water resources in a State is to be planned by the concerned State government. However, CGWB has prepared Master Plan - 2020 for artificial recharge in collaboration with States. The Master Plan recommends creation of 5.91 Lakhs of various types of artificial recharge structures at an estimated cost of Rs 5,357.00 Cr in Jharkhand.

**(e)** Question does not arise in view of the reply given in para (d) above.

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