

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3901

ANSWERED ON 23.03.2023

PER CAPITA WATER AVAILABILITY

3901. SHRI ANUMULA REVANTH REDDY

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that per capita water availability in the country is declining as a result of the rise in population and if so, the details of likely per capita water availability till 2030, year-wise;
- (b) whether the Government is taking steps to increase the per capita water availability and if so, the details of such initiative along with their outcome; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to reduce ground water dependency along with the funds allocated and utilised for the same during the last five years?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) The average annual water availability of any region or country is largely dependent upon hydro-meteorological and geological factors, however, water availability per person is dependent on population of a country. The per capita water availability in the country is reducing due to increase in population. Based on the study titled “Reassessment of Water Availability in India using Space Inputs, 2019” conducted by Central Water Commission, the average annual per capita water availability for year 2021 and 2031 has been assessed as 1486 cubic meter and 1367 cubic meter respectively.

(b) & (c) 'Water' being a State subject, steps for augmentation, conservation and efficient management of water resources which positively impact over the issue of per capita water availability are primarily undertaken by the respective State Governments. In order to supplement the efforts of the State Governments, Central Government provides technical and financial assistance to them through various schemes and programmes.

Government of India, in partnership with State, is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) since August, 2019 to make provision of tap water supply to every rural household of the country. At the time of announcement of the Mission, only 3.23 Crore (17%) rural households had tap water supply. Since the launch of the Mission, more than 8.25 Crore have been provided with tap water connection and as on 20.03.2023. Thus out of 19.42 Crore rural household, around 11.48 Crore (59.15%) rural households are presently getting tap water supply.

Government of India has launched Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) in 2015 which focuses on development of basic urban infrastructure especially water supply

& access to tap connection to every household in 500 cities. So far, 1,342 projects worth ₹42,761 crore have been grounded including 967 completed projects worth ₹19,018 crore. Through these projects & in convergence with other programmes, 137 lakh household water tap connections have been provided so far.

Taking it forward, AMRUT 2.0 has been launched in 2021 which covers all the statutory towns of the country to ensure universal coverage of water supply & make cities 'water secure'. For water availability & conservation, so far, 2,996 water supply projects worth ₹87,896 crore (incl. O&M) have been approved by Apex Committee at Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

To ensure optimum utilization of water, Government of India has been implementing Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojna (PMKSY) from 2015-16 onwards. Under PMKSY-Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP), 99 ongoing major/medium irrigation projects were prioritized during 2016-17, in consultation with States. Out of these projects, AIBP works of 50 prioritized projects have been reported to be completed. An additional irrigation potential of 24.35 lakh hectare has been reported to be created by these projects in the country, during 2016-17 to 2021-2022. The extension of PMKSY for the period 2021-22 to 2025-26 has been approved by Government of India, with an overall outlay of Rs. 93,068.56 crore. The scheme of Surface Minor Irrigation (SMI) and Repair, Renovation & Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies has now become a part of PMKSY-HKPP.

The Mission Amrit Sarovar was launched on National Panchayati Raj Day on 24th April, 2022 as a part of celebration of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav with an objective to conserve water for future. The Mission is aimed at developing and rejuvenating 75 water bodies in each district of the country.

Jal Shakti Abhiyan-I (JSA-I) was conducted in 2019 in 1592 blocks out of 2836 blocks in 256 water stressed districts of the country and was expanded as "Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain" (JSA:CTR) in 2021 with the theme "Catch the Rain – Where it Falls When it Falls" to cover all the blocks of all districts (rural as well as urban areas) across the country. "Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain" (JSA:CTR) -2022 campaign, the third in the series of JSAs, has been launched on 29.3.2022 to cover all the blocks of all districts (rural as well as urban areas) across the country. Now, JSA: CTR 2023 has been launched by the Hon'ble President of India on 04.03.2023 across the country. The Campaign will be implemented during 04.03.2023 to 30.11.2023. Following water related works/ afforestation works have been completed/ ongoing during the period 29.03.2022 to 03.03.2023:

Water related works across the country in JSA: CTR 2022	
Water Conservation and Rainwater Harvesting Structures	12,28,553
Renovation of Traditional Water Bodies	2,67,472
Reuse and Recharge Structures	8,74,680
Watershed Development	16,28,726
Intensive Afforestation	78,38,36,035
No. of districts where Jal Shakti Kendra has been established	632
No. of districts that have prepared water conservation plan	264

The Bureau of Water Use Efficiency (BWUE) has been set up for promotion, regulation and control of efficient use of water in irrigation, industrial and domestic sector. The Bureau will be a facilitator for promotion of improving water use efficiency across various sectors namely irrigation, drinking water supply, power generation, industries, etc. in the country.

Central Ground Water Board is periodically monitoring the ground water levels throughout the Country on a regional scale, through a network of monitoring wells. In order to assess the decline in water level on a long-term basis, the water level data collected by CGWB during November 2022 has been compared with the decadal average (2012-2021). Analysis of water level data indicates that about 61% of the wells monitored have registered rise in ground water levels. The rise in ground water level is the cumulative effect of the both Central and State Governments initiatives.

Government of India is implementing Atal Bhujal Yojana (ATAL JAL), a Central Sector Scheme with an outlay of Rs 6000 crore in identified water stressed areas of 8220 Gram Panchayats (GPs) under 229 blocks in 80 districts of Seven States viz. Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh with an aim to arrest decline in ground water level through community led sustainable groundwater management. The scheme is being implemented from 01.04.2020 for a period of 5 years. Allocation and utilization of funds for Atal Bhujal Yojana since its inception is as given below:

Financial Year	Funds allocated	Funds utilized
2020-21	Rs. 125 crore	Rs. 123.03 crore
2021-22	Rs. 330 crore	Rs. 327.48 crore
2022-23	Rs. 700 crore	Rs. 637.64 crore (till 16.03.2023)

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 (NOCs) for ground water abstraction to Industries, Infrastructure units and Mining projects in feasible areas in certain States/UTs where regulation is not being done by the respective State/UTs. CGWA also issues notifications and directions to State Governments and the Administrators of the UTs to adopt Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting (RTRWH) in all the 'Critical' and 'Over-exploited' assessment units (blocks / Taluks / Firkas / Districts / Valley / Islands / Region / Tehsil, etc. in the country and in all the Government buildings under their jurisdiction.

The important steps taken by the Central Government for sustainable ground water management in the country can be seen at the URL: http://jalshakti-dowr.gov.in/sites/default/files/Steps%20taken%20by%20the%20Central%20Govt%20for%20water_depletion_july2022.pdf
