

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2445

ANSWERED ON 03.08.2023

NAQUIM

†2445. SHRI DEEPAK BAIJ

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

- (a) whether the Government is paying special attention on the quality of groundwater and its contamination by toxic substances like arsenic under National Project on Aquifer Management (NAQUIM) of Central Ground Water Board (CGWB);
- (b) if so, the details of projects initiated under the above scheme, project and State-wise; and
- (c) the details of funds allocated, released and utilized during the last three years and the current year especially in Chhattisgarh?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has taken up Aquifer Mapping and Management Programme (NAQUIM) under Ground Water Management & Regulation (GWM&R) scheme, which is aimed to delineate aquifers (water bearing formations) disposition and their characterization for preparation of aquifer/ area specific ground water management plans with community participation. Further, under NAQUIM, ground water quality i.e. status of contamination of aquifers by toxic substances such as Arsenic, Nitrate, Fluoride, Iron etc are also studied.

In addition, CGWB generates ground water quality data of the entire country periodically on a regional scale through a set of monitoring wells as part of its ground water quality monitoring program.

(b) Major activities being taken up under the GWM&R scheme include aquifer mapping for the entire country (NAQUIM) and other activities of CGWB such as ground water level & quality monitoring including Arsenic contamination on regular basis, periodic assessment of dynamic ground water resources in collaboration with States/UTs, regulation and control of ground water withdrawal in certain States/UTs, taking up few demonstrative recharge projects in selected water stressed areas, strengthening of scientific infrastructure for technological upgradation etc.

The major activity of NAQUIM is mapping of underground aquifer system of the entire country and to suggest management interventions for its sustainable use. Out of nearly 33 Lakh Sq. Km. of

geographical area of the country, the mappable area of around 25 Lakh Sq. Km. was identified by the CGWB (under NAQUIM), which has already been completed before 31st March 2023. State-wise details of NAQUIM covered in the country is given at **Annexure**.

The information generated (including groundwater quality data) under NAQUIM are shared with States/UTs for suitable interventions under various Central/State schemes. Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) under Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation is a Centrally Sponsored scheme which is being implemented in collaboration with States/UTs to make provision of potable tap water supply to every rural household of the country by 2024 including quality affected habitations.

In addition, CGWB has identified Arsenic safe deeper aquifer zones and Arsenic safe wells have been constructed using innovative cement sealing technique in parts of West Bengal, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh under the NAQUIM program. So far, 522 exploratory wells (40 in Bihar, 188 in West Bengal and 294 in Uttar Pradesh) tapping Arsenic safe aquifers have been constructed (till March 2022) under NAQUIM and handed over to concerned States for use. In addition, the innovative cement sealing technique has been shared with the States for their use.

(c) Funds have been allocated across the country by the CGWB under the GWM&R Scheme to undertake various activities as mentioned in part(b) above including NAQUIM. Total allocation and expenditure under the GWM&R scheme for the financial years 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23 and the current year in Chhattisgarh are given below.

Year	Allocation and Expenditure under the GWM&R scheme in Chhattisgarh (Rs in Crore)	
	Allocation	Expenditure
2020-21	3.16	3.14
2021-22	4.23	4.19
2022-23	8.98	4.68
2023-24	8.85	0.65 (as on 30 th June)

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2445 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 03.08.2023 REGARDING “NAQUIM”.

Sl. No.	State/UT	Total Area	Area targeted for coverage	Coverage till March 2023
1	Andaman & Nicobar UT	8,249	1,774	1,774
2	Andhra Pradesh	1,63,900	1,41,784	1,41,784
3	Arunachal Pradesh	83,743	4,703	4,703
4	Assam	78,438	61,826	61,826
5	Bihar	94,163	90,567	90,567
6	Chandigarh UT	115	115	115
7	Chhattisgarh	1,36,034	96,000	96,000
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli,	602	602	602
9	Daman & Diu UT	1,483	1,483	1,483
10	Goa	3,702	3,702	3,702
11	Gujarat	1,96,024	1,60,978	1,60,978
12	Haryana	44,212	44,179	44,179
13	Himachal Pradesh	55,673	8,020	8,020
14	Jammu & Kashmir UT	1,67,396	9,506	9,506
15	Jharkhand	79,714	76,705	76,705
16	Karnataka	1,91,808	1,91,719	1,91,719
17	Kerala	38,863	28,088	28,088
18	Lakshadweep UT	32	32	32
19	Ladakh UT	54,840	963	963
20	Madhya Pradesh	3,08,000	2,69,349	2,69,349
21	Maharashtra	3,07,713	2,59,914	2,59,914
22	Manipur	22,327	2,559	2,559
23	Meghalaya	22,429	10,645	10,645
24	Mizoram	21,081	700	700
25	Nagaland	16,579	910	910
26	Odisha	1,55,707	1,19,636	1,19,636
27	Puducherry UT	479	454	454
28	Punjab	50,368	50,368	50,368
29	Rajasthan	3,42,239	3,34,152	3,34,152
30	Sikkim	7,096	1,496	1,496
31	Tamil Nadu	1,30,058	1,05,829	1,05,829
32	Telangana	1,11,940	1,04,824	1,04,824
33	Tripura	10,492	6,757	6,757
34	Uttar Pradesh	2,46,387	2,40,649	2,40,649
35	Uttarakhand	53,484	11,430	11,430
36	West Bengal	88,752	71,947	71,947
	Total	3294105	2514437	2514437
