

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

LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. *275

ANSWERED ON 21.12.2023

WATER CONSERVATION INITIATIVES

*275 SHRI RAJENDRA DHEDYA GAVIT
 DR. SUJAY RADHAKRISHNA VIKHE PATIL

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status and progress of ongoing water conservation initiatives in the country including in Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal; and
- (b) the details of upcoming plans or strategies aimed at further enhancing water management and sustainability efforts?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (b) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. *275 TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.12.2023 IN LOK SABHA REGARDING “WATER CONSERVATION INITIATIVES”

(a) & (b) Water is a State subject and the Central Government supplements the efforts of the States through technical and financial support. Water conservation is one of the foremost priorities of the Government. Major steps taken by the Government and plethora of schemes implemented for water conservation in the entire country, including the States of Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal, are as follows:

- i. Government of India has been implementing a flagship scheme namely Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) which has provisions under its Natural Resource Management (NRM) component that inter-alia includes water conservation and water harvesting structures. MGNREGS is one of the largest contributor of funds for water conservation. Besides, financial assistance given to various States under 15th Finance Commission tied grants which can be inter alia utilized for rainwater harvesting. The Ministry of Jal Shakti has been implementing Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA) since 2019 on an annual basis. In the current year, Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain (JSA: CTR) 2023, 4th in the series of JSAs, was implemented in all the districts (rural as well as urban) of the country, including the States of Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal from 04.03.2023 to 30.11.2023. JSA: CTR is a convergence of various Central Government schemes like MGNREGS, 15th Finance Commission grants etc, State Government schemes, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds etc. The details of works undertaken under JSA: CTR across the country is at **Annexure I** and the details of works completed in the States of Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal under JSA: CTR is at **Annexure II**.
- ii. Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), AMRUT 2.0 has been launched on 01st October, 2021 covering all the statutory towns of the country to ensure universal coverage of water supply and make cities water secure. Under AMURT 2.0, harvesting the rainwater through storm water drains into water body (which is not receiving sewage/effluent) is admissible component of the projects. Through preparation of ‘Aquifer Management Plan’ cities targets to strategize groundwater recharge augmentation by developing a roadmap for improving rain water harvesting within city limits. Through IEC campaign, awareness is created about practices for water conservation like rainwater harvesting.
- iii. Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs has formulated guidelines for the States to adopt measures suitable to local conditions, such as Unified Building Bye Laws (UBBL) of Delhi, 2016, Model Building Bye Laws (MBBL), 2016 and Urban and Regional Development Plan Formulation and Implementation (URDPFI) Guidelines, 2014 with adequate focus on requirement of rainwater harvesting and water conservation measures.

- iv. Government of India is implementing Atal Bhujal Yojana (ATAL JAL), a Central Sector Scheme in identified water stressed areas of 8213 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. The scheme is not being implemented in West Bengal.
- v. Government has been implementing Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) since 2015-16 with an aim to enhance physical access of water on farm and expand cultivable area under assured irrigation, improve on farm water use efficiency, introduce sustainable water conservation practices etc. Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) is implementing Per Drop More Crop scheme which is operational from 2015-16 in the Country. The Per Drop More Crop scheme mainly focuses on water use efficiency at farm level through Micro Irrigation (Drip and Sprinkler Irrigation System).
- vi. The Ministry of Jal Shakti has set up the Bureau of Water Use Efficiency (BWUE) under the National Water Mission on 20.10.2022, to act as a facilitator for promotion of improving water use efficiency across various sectors namely irrigation, drinking water supply, power generation, industries, etc. in the country.
- vii. Mission Amrit Sarovar has been launched on 24th April 2022 with an objective to harvest and conserve water for future generations. Under the Mission every district of the country have provisions for construction or rejuvenation of at least 75 Amrit Sarovars. So far, out of the total number of 109787 sites identified for Amrit Sarovar, work has been completed at 68664 sites.
- viii. CGWB has prepared a Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Groundwater- 2020 in consultation with States/UTs which is a macro level plan indicating various structures for the different terrain conditions of the country including estimated cost. The Master Plan envisages construction of about 1.42 crore Rain water harvesting and artificial recharge structures in the country to harness 185 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) of monsoon rainfall including 42 thousand artificial recharge structures in West Bengal and 7.2 lakh structures in Madhya Pradesh.
- ix. Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has completed the National Aquifer Mapping (NAQUIM) Project in the entire mappable area of about 25 Lakh sq. km including the States of West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh. The Aquifer maps and management plans have been prepared and shared with the respective State agencies for implementation. The management plans include various water conservation measures through recharge structures.
- x. CGWB makes an assessment of the Dynamic Ground Water Resources of India every year which serves as a cornerstone for categorizing assessment units across the country into various classifications, including Safe, Semi-Critical, Critical, or Over-Exploited, based on their groundwater extraction levels. These categorization are instrumental in shaping policies aimed at achieving sustainable groundwater management level throughout the country.

- xi. The State Government of West Bengal has reported that they have been implementing Jal Dharo-Jal Bharo (JD-JB) Abhiyan launched by the State Government since 2011-12 for conservation of rain/surface water and have created/renovated/revived about 4 lakh water bodies/tanks/equivalent etc. They have also been promoting micro irrigation for conservation of water resources and have installed 1,155 nos. Drip/Sprinkler schemes having irrigation potential of 5,800 Hectare. Besides, various other State Governments have been implementing their own schemes broadly for water conservation which include Pani Bachao Paisa Kamao (Punjab), Mera Pani, Meri Virasat (Haryana), Mission Kakatiya (Telangana), Jal Jeevan Hariyali Yojana (Bihar), Pani Panchayat (Odisha), Sujalam Suphalam (Gujarat), Jal Yukt Shivar (Maharashtra), West Bengal Accelerated Development of Minor Irrigation Project (West Bengal), Community Based Micro irrigation (Kerala) etc.

With the implementation of the above initiatives, the comparison between dynamic groundwater assessment report of year 2020 and 2023 reveals the following :

Sr. No.	Parameter	Year 2020	Year 2023	Increase/Decrease in units
1.	Over-Exploited	1114 units	736 units	378 units decrease
2.	Critical	270 units	199 units	71 units decrease
3.	Semi-Critical	1057 units	698 units	359 units decrease
4.	Safe	4427 units	4793 units	366 units increase
5.	Saline	97 units	127 units	30 units increase

In addition to the above, following achievements have been made with the implementation of Jal Shakti Abhiyan from 2019 to 2023 (so far):

- More than 1.00 crore water-related works
- About 130 crore saplings planted (Intensive Afforestation)
- More than 1.30 lakh Kisan Melas/Training Programmes held.
- About 25 lakh water bodies enumerated.
- 661 Jal Shakti Kendras established.
- 519 District Water Conservation Plans prepared.

ANNEXURE I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *275 TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.12.2023 REGARDING “WATER CONSERVATION INITIATIVES”

Progress under Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch The Rain campaign year-wise

S. No.	Intervention	JSA: CTR 2021		JSA: CTR 2022		JSA: CTR 2023 (from 04.03.2023 to 01.12.2023)	
		Total works undertaken	Expenditure incurred* (Rs. in crore)	Total works undertaken	Expenditure incurred* (Rs. in crore)	Total works undertaken	Expenditure incurred* (Rs. In crore)
1	Water Conservation & Rainwater Harvesting	16,27,677	24,592	12,40,861	8,175	10,59,403	6,187
2	Renovation of Traditional Water Bodies	2,97,666	10,017	2,67,583	4,327	2,53,855	3,147
3	Reuse & Recharge Structures	8,32,596	1,267	8,74,449	345	5,88,683	228
4	Watershed Development	19,18,913	20,997	16,27,799	8,338	12,41,131	5,446
	Total Water Related Works	46,76,852	56,873	40,10,692	21,185	31,43,072	15,008
5	Intensive Afforestation	36,76,60,580	8,793	80,65,52,158	2,664	6,61,97,656	1,554
6	Training Programmes/ Kisan Melas	43,690	-	1,73,864	-	54,271	-
	Total Expenditure		65,666		23,849		16,562

* The expenditure is of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) alone.

ANNEXURE II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *275 TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.12.2023 REGARDING “WATER CONSERVATION INITIATIVES”

Works completed in the States of Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal under JSA: CTR

Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain								
Intervention-Wise Status Report, Madhya Pradesh								
(Status From 22.03.2021 to 15.12.2023)								
S.No.	Years	Water Conservation and Rain Water Harvesting	Renovation of Traditional Water Bodies	Reuse and Recharge Structures	Watershed Development	Intensive Afforestation	Training Programmes/ Kisan Melas	
1.	2023	36487	7031	15751	39284	15422	15	
2.	2022	229649	6942	25909	65403	512076	1297	
3.	2021	106484	3812	19225	97822	1513665	2805	
Total		372620	17785	60885	202509	2041163	4117	
Total Water Related Works		6,53,799						

Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain								
Intervention-Wise Status Report, West Bengal								
(Status From 22.03.2021 to 15.12.2023)								
S.No.	Years	Water Conservation and Rain Water Harvesting	Renovation of Traditional Water Bodies	Reuse and Recharge Structures	Watershed Development	Intensive Afforestation	Training Programmes/ Kisan Melas	
1.	2023	1006	264	18	168	867	793	
2.	2022	14247	5924	947	6006	38674	511	
3.	2021	81146	38463	33948	46351	2271177	151	
Total		96399	44651	34913	52525	2310718	1455	
Total Water Related Works		2,28,488						
