

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1945

ANSWERED ON 14.12.2023

MODEL BILLS ON WATER CONSERVATION

1945. SHRI PARBHUBHAI NAGARBHAI VASAVA

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government has circulated Model Bills on Water Conservation and Flood Plain Zoning to the State Governments;
- (b) if so, the details of the States that have enacted legislations thereon and the status with respect to remaining States, Bill and State-wise; and
- (c) the efforts made by the Government in this regard and the time by which all the States are expected to enact legislations on both the issues?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) to (c) Government of India has continuously impressed upon States the need to take action to implement the flood plain zoning approach in development. A model draft bill for flood plain zoning legislation was circulated by the Union Government in 1975 to all the States. So far, Manipur, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand and erstwhile State of Jammu & Kashmir have enacted the legislation. However, none of the States except Uttarakhand have taken steps for demarcation of flood plain till date. As per NGT Order 2017, notification has been issued by the State Government of Uttar Pradesh vide Executive Order dated 4th September, 2020 for identification and demarcation of flood plain on River Ganga from Haridwar to Unnao on one in twenty-five years' cycle.

No specific information is available on circulation of particularly 'Model Bill on Water Conservation' to the State Governments. However, Ministry of Jal Shakti has circulated a 'Model Bill for Conservation, Protection, Regulation and Management of Groundwater 2016' to all the States/UTs to enable them to enact suitable ground water legislation for regulation of its development, which also includes provision of rain water harvesting. So far, 21 States/UTs have adopted and implemented the ground water legislation.
