

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1959
ANSWERED ON 22.09.2020

AREA UNDER IRRIGATION IN ODISHA

1959. SHRIMATI APARAJITA SARANGI

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the ratio of area under irrigation to the net sown area in Odisha as per the last available data;
- (b) whether the Government is planning on devising a strategy to harness excess rainwater to irrigate agricultural lands; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI & SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA)

- (a) As per the latest available data (2015-16), the ratio of net irrigated area to the net sown area was at 29.30 in Odisha.
- (b) to (c) Government has taken number of measures for conservation, development and management of water resources in the country are :
 - (i) Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY): PMKSY was launched during 2015-16, by Central Government with an overarching vision to ensure access to some means of protective irrigation for all agricultural farms in the country. Four components of PMKSY are Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP), Har Khet Ko Pani (HKKP), Per Drop More Crop and Watershed Development.
 - (ii) Hon'ble Prime Minister has written a letter to all sarpanchs regarding the importance of water conservation and harvesting and exhorted them to adopt all appropriate measures to make water conservation a mass movement.
 - (iii) An 'Inter-Ministerial Committee' under the Chairmanship of Secretary (WR, RD & GR) has been constituted to take forward the subject of 'Push on Water Conservation Related Activities for Optimum Utilization of Monsoon Rainfall'.

- (iv) Government of India launched Jal Shakti Abhiyan which is a time bound campaign with a mission mode approach intended to improve water availability including ground water conditions in the water stressed blocks of 256 districts in India.
- (v) National Water Policy (2012) formulated by Ministry of Jal Shakti advocates conservation, promotion and protection of water and highlights the need for augmenting the availability of water through rain water harvesting, direct use of rainfall and other management measures. The Policy has been forwarded to all States/UTs concerned Ministries/Departments of Central Government for adoption.
- (vi) In order to regulate the over-exploitation and consequent depletion of ground water, the Ministry has circulated a Model Bill 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, 18 States/UTs have adopted and implemented the ground water legislation on the lines of Model Bill.
- (vii) Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has issued directives to the Chief Secretaries of all States as well as Administrators of all UTs to take measures to promote/adopt artificial recharge to ground water / rain water harvesting. It also grants No Objection Certificates (NOCs) for ground water abstraction to industries, infrastructure units and mining projects in feasible areas with mandatory conditions for conservation, augmentation and efficient use of ground water.
- (viii) Central Government supports construction of water harvesting and conservation works primarily through Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), PMKSY–Watershed Development Component. Further, the works related to rainwater harvesting structures such as percolation tank and well recharges are permissible under MGNREGS and are executed in the rural areas.
