

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1684
ANSWERED ON 11.02.2021

DATA BANK ON PALAEOCHANNELS

1684. SHRI RITESH PANDEY

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has created a systematic data bank on Palaeochannels as recommended by the Palaeochannels Committee (2016), if so, the details thereof and if not, the steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (b) whether the Government has taken any effective measures regarding artificial recharge structure of Palaeochannel, if so, the details including the funds allocated thereof, district-wise and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government is planning to form a separate cell for Palaeochannels in the Central Ground Water Board for handling activities of Palaeochannels and development of ground water resources;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA)

(a) Information on traces of palaeochannels found in parts of the Rajasthan, Haryana, Punjab, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh have been generated as part of various studies carried out by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB).

(b) Water being a State subject, initiatives on water management including study and recharge of Palaeochannels in the Country is primarily States' responsibility. However, CGWB in collaboration with NGRI has initiated few studies in parts of Rajasthan, Gujarat, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh for aquifer mapping as a part of which distribution of palaeochannels and aspects related to artificial recharge are being studied.

No funds for creation of artificial recharge structures (for recharge of Palaeochannels) have been allocated as no such scheme is being implemented by the Ministry.

(c) & (d) There is no proposal in CGWB for the creation of a separate cell for palaeochannels activities and development of groundwater resources at present.

(e) Activities related to palaeochannels and groundwater development are being carried out through the respective Regional Offices of CGWB with existing officers/staffs.
