

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1726
ANSWERED ON 11.02.2021

ACTION PLAN FOR DEPLETING GROUND WATER RESERVES

1726. SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated an action plan to tackle the depletion of the ground water reserves as pointed out in the Central Water Commission report of States like Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI & SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA)

(a) & (b) Water being a State subject, initiatives on water management including conservation and water harvesting in the Country is primarily States' responsibility. However, the important measures taken by the Central Government for conservation, management of ground water and effective implementation of rain water harvesting in the country are at the following URL:

http://jalshakti-dowr.gov.in/sites/default/files/Steps_to_control_water_depletion_Feb2021.pdf.

A number of States have done notable work in the field of water conservation/harvesting. Government of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh are implementing "Paani Bachao, Paisa Kamao", 'Jal Hi Jeevan' and "Rajya Bhujal Sanrakshan Mission & Khet Talab Yojana" etc. respectively in water stressed areas.

Government of India launched Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA) in 2019, 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 including in Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. In this regard, teams of officers from Central Government along-with technical officers from Ministry of Jal Shakti were deputed to visit water stressed districts and to work in close collaboration with district level officials to undertake suitable interventions. Further, Ministry launched 'JSA-II-Catch the Rain' on 21 December 2020 for awareness generation among people.

Government of India is implementing Atal Bhujal Yojana (Atal Jal), a Rs.6000 Crore Central Sector Scheme, for sustainable management of ground water resources with community participation. Atal Jal is being implemented in 80 water stressed districts of Seven States viz. Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. Out of this 10 and 13 districts fall in the jurisdiction of Uttar Pradesh and Haryana respectively.

Central Government supports construction of water harvesting and conservation works primarily through Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) and Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana – Watershed Development Component (PMKSY-WDC). The expenditure made on water related works taken up in Punjab, Haryana & Uttar Pradesh under MGNREGS and details of water harvesting structures (WHS) created under PMKSY-WDC during last two years is given at **Annexure**.

(c) The question does not arise in view of the reply given above.

ANNEXURE

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) & (b) of Unstarred Question No. 1726 to be answered in Lok Sabha on 11.02.2020 regarding “Action Plan for Depleting Ground Water Reserves”.

Water conservation and water harvesting works taken up /completed under MGNREGS for last 2 years.

State	2020-21				2019-20			
	COMPLETED		ONGOING		COMPLETED		ONGOING	
	NO. OF WORKS	EXPENDITURE IN RS. LAKHS	NO. OF WORKS	EXPENDITURE IN RS. LAKHS	NO. OF WORKS	EXPENDITURE IN RS. LAKHS	NO. OF WORKS	EXPENDITURE IN RS. LAKHS
HARYANA	402	702	2079	3958	1028	2421	1770	2349
PUNJAB	243	237	1488	859	476	586	1094	495
UTTAR PRADESH	21069	23331	98691	98162	21015	39716	65442	36431

State-wise details of WHS created/rejuvenated under PMKSY-WDC during 2015-16 to 2020-21 (as on 30.09.2020)

Sl. No	State	WHS created /rejuvenated (in Nos.)
1.	Haryana	3245
2.	Punjab	365
3.	Uttar Pradesh	20307
