

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI
DEPARTMENT OF DRINKING WATER & SANITATION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4674
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31/03/2022

DEPLETION OF GROUND WATER LEVEL

†4674. SHRI VIVEK NARAYAN SHEJWALKAR:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether most of the schemes relating to supply of water in rural areas under Jal Jeevan Mission (Har Ghar Jal Yojana) are based on ground water and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether ground water level has been continuously depleting rapidly all over the country;
- (c) if so, the scheme of the Government to recharge the water level of tubewells borings in such a condition;
- (d) whether adequate provision of funds have been made for this purpose under this scheme; and
- (e) if so, the provisions made to develop sources of ground water for permanent solution to the problem of drinking water?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI
(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)

(a) to (e) Since August, 2019, Government of India in partnership with States is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) to make provision of potable tap water supply to every rural household of the country, by 2024.

The water sources *inter alia* which include groundwater (open well, borewell, tube well, handpumps, etc.), ancient & traditional surface water (river, reservoir, lake, pond, springs, etc.) and rain water stored in small tanks are being used as sources for drinking water supply schemes. Drinking Water being a State subject, it is States, who plan, design, approve and implement drinking water supply schemes. Government of India supplements the efforts of the States by providing technical and financial assistance. As such details of individual projects/ schemes for rural water supply projects including water source for scheme are not maintained at the Government of India level.

Under JJM, provisions have been made for drinking water source development/ strengthening/ augmentation; and infrastructure for bulk transfer of water, treatment and distribution systems in water deficit drought-prone and desert areas without dependable ground water sources, apart from creation of in-village water supply infrastructure.

In addition, provisions for taking up augmentation and strengthening of local & ancient drinking water sources in convergence with other schemes at village level viz. MGNREGS, 15th Finance Commission tied grants to Rural Local Bodies (RLBs), Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP), State schemes, District Mineral Development Fund, CSR funds, community contribution, etc. have also been envisaged under the JJM.

Water being a State subject, steps for augmentation, conservation and efficient management of water resources are primarily undertaken by the respective State Governments. For supplementing the efforts of the States, the Central Government has taken various steps for sustainable ground water management in the country. Details are available at:

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