

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1914
ANSWERED ON 28.07.2022

RAIN WATER HARVESTING STRUCTURE

1914 SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR SINGH

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry provides any financial assistance for construction of individual Rain Water Harvesting Structure (RWHS) in Bihar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to boost construction of RWHS at large scale across the country?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) & (b): Central Government provides technical and financial assistance for construction of rain water harvesting structures under various schemes/ programmes of the Government of India across the country including Bihar like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), 15th Finance Commission grants, Watershed Development Component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana etc.

(c) In order to boost construction of water conservation and rainwater harvesting structures at large scale in the country, Ministry of Jal Shakti has taken up nationwide campaign “Jal Shakti Abhiyan” since 2019. Under JSA-I implemented in 2019 around 2.73 lakh Water Conservation & Rain Water Harvesting structures were completed/ongoing. Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain” (JSA:CTR) was taken up in 2021 during 22.3.2021 to 30.11.2021 and JSA:CTR-2022 has been taken up for implementation during 29.3.2022 to 30.11.2022 with the theme “*Catch the rain, where it falls, when it falls*” for creating appropriate rainwater harvesting structures in urban and rural areas of all the districts in the country, with people's active participation, during the pre-monsoon and monsoon periods. The campaign primarily focused on water conservation and rainwater harvesting. The interventions of JSA:CTR and JSA:CTR-2022 include creation of new and maintenance of old rainwater harvesting structures and revival of traditional rainwater harvesting structures. During the period of implementation of JSA:CTR - 2021, more than 16 lakh water conservation and rain water harvesting structures have been created/ongoing as on 28.3.2022 and during the implementation of JSA:CTR-2022 around 4.00 lakh water conservation and rain water harvesting structures have been created/ongoing as on 25.7.2022 as per information available on JSA:CTR portal (jsactr.mowr.gov.in). Stakeholder Ministries/ Departments and States/UT are also incurring funds from their own resources and locally mobilized funds.

Department of Rural Development implements MGNREGS, a demand driven wage employment programme in rural areas. Financial assistance is extended under MGNREGS for works relating to Natural Resource Management (NRM) which include rain water harvesting structures.

Continuing the work under Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has launched a new Mission - AMRUT 2.0. AMRUT 2.0 envisages to make the cities 'water secure' through circular economy of water. It helps cities to identify scope for projects focusing on universal coverage of functional water tap connections, water source conservation, rejuvenation of water bodies & wells, recycle/ reuse of treated waste water and rain water harvesting. Based on the assessment through City Water Balance Plan (CWBP), Cities/ States decide to take up RWHS projects for well rejuvenation or for water supply source augmentation.

States/ UTs have been advised to enable (Rural Local Bodies (RLBs)/Panchayats to utilise 15th Finance Commissions grants to take up rain water harvesting in Government buildings like panchayat, bhawans, anganwadis, Primary Health Centres etc.

Government of India encourages rain water harvesting through its various guidelines. Adequate focus has been given on requirement of rain water harvesting and water conservation measures on Unified Building Bye Laws (UBBL) of Delhi 2016, Model Building Bye Laws (MBBL), 2016 and Urban and Regional Development Plan Formulation and Implementation (URDPFI) Guidelines, 2014.

Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Groundwater- 2020 has been prepared by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) which envisages construction of about 1.42 crore Rain water harvesting and artificial recharge structures in the country to harness 185 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) of monsoon rainfall.

The other important steps taken by the Central Government for sustainable ground water management including promotion of rain water harvesting, artificial recharge to ground water, etc. are available at http://jalshakti-dowr.gov.in/sites/default/files/Steps%20taken%20by%20the%20Central%20Govt%20for%20water_depletion_july2022.pdf
