GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2926

ANSWERED ON 08.08.2024

CATCH THE RAIN CAMPAIGN

2926. SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of Catch The Rain campaign along with the details of areas covered with water conservation through Rainwater harvesting since 2019, State-wise; and

(b) the details and achievements made by using remote sensing images from NRSA and GIS mapping technology and the benefits of using the data to plan scientifically new water harvesting system?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoJS) launched Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA), a time-bound, mission mode water conservation campaign for implementation in the July - November 2019 period in 1,592 blocks out of 2,836 blocks of 256 water-stressed districts of the country. Jal Shakti Abhiyan could not be taken up in 2020 due to restrictions imposed by the Covid 19 pandemic. However, in order to maintain continuity of JSA 2019, National Water Mission (NWM) under the Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti started the "Catch The Rain" (CTR) Campaign in February 2020. Ministry of Jal Shakti in 2021 took up the "Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain" (JSA: CTR) subsuming Catch the Rain campaign which covered rural and urban areas of all districts (all blocks and municipalities) of the country. JSA: CTR campaign has five focused interventions which inter-alia includes rainwater harvesting & water conservation. JSA: CTR 2021 has become an annual feature since 2021 and the 5th edition of JSA: CTR was launched on 09.03.2024 for implementation during the period 09.03.2024 to 30.11.2024 in rural and urban areas of all districts (all blocks and municipalities) in all the States/UTs of the country.

(b) Under the Jal Shakti Abhiyan:Catch the Rain campaign implemented by the National Water Mission, Ministry of Jal Shakti, one of the five focused interventions is enumerating, geo-tagging & making inventory of all water bodies and preparation of scientific plans for water conservation. The District Magistrates/Collectors have been requested to enumerate with the help of old revenue records and using remote sensing images from NRSA (National Remote Sensing Agency) and GIS (Geographic Information System) mapping technology all existing water-bodies/ water harvesting structures, mark their boundaries, geo-tag them, integrate available data from National Water Informatics Centre

(NWIC), State Water Resources Information systems and using the data for preparing Scientific Water Conservation plans. As per information available on JSA: CTR portal (jsactr.mowr.gov.in), so far, 568 districts have prepared the scientific district water conservation plans in the country.

The Ministry of Jal Shakti has prepared a District Water Body Atlas for 135 districts in the country. The objective is to provide a preliminary understanding of the water spread area, chlorophyll content and turbidity index of water bodies larger than one hectare. Interpreted images from NRSC (National Remote Sensing Centre) served as a foundational data source for creating the District Water Body Atlas using GIS technology. This atlas can guide the scientific planning of new water harvesting systems and further water conservation efforts in the areas where these water bodies are located.

Leveraging remote sensing images from NRSA and GIS mapping technology significantly enhances the efficiency and effectiveness of water conservation efforts across India. Geo-tagging and continuous monitoring enables the evaluation of water harvesting structures' performance, allowing for the timely identification and resolution of any issues or inefficiencies. This approach promotes the sustainable management of water resources, reducing the risk of over-extraction and depletion, and ensuring their availability for future generations.

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