GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2941

ANSWERED ON 08.08.2024

PH LEVELS OF GROUND WATER

2941. SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY

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

(a) whether the Government has conducted any study/survey/research into the Potential of Hydrogen (pH) levels of ground water in the country;

(b) if so, the details regarding the areas identified in the State of Andhra Pradesh which have a higher than normal range of acidic/alkaline water, thereby making the ground water dangerous for consumption;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to make sure that the pH levels of water remain within the limits considered safe for consumption especially in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(d) the total amount of funds allocated/utilised for the purpose of regulating pH levels of ground water in the State of Andhra Pradesh during the last five years; and

(e) whether the Government has taken/proposes to take any awareness campaigns on the pH issues of ground water in the country and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) & (b) The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) under the Ministry of Jal Shakti annually generates ground water quality data of the country on a regional scale, including in the state of Andhra Pradesh, as part of its ground water quality monitoring program and various scientific studies wherein samples are analyzed for various parameters including pH. During May 2023, ground water samples were collected from 1151 monitoring stations in Andhra Pradesh wherein 8 nos. of locations showed pH less than the permissible limit of 6.5 while 8 nos. of locations shows pH higher than the desirable limit of 8.5. The details of the location in Andhra Pradesh which have a higher than normal range of acidic/alkaline water is given in **Annexure -I.**

(**c)** Government of India, in partnership with States, is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) since August, 2019 to provide potable tap water supply of adequate quantity, of prescribed quality and on regular & long-term basis to every rural household in the country. Drinking Water being a state subject, the responsibility of planning, approval, implementation, operation, and maintenance of drinking water

supply schemes, including those under the Jal Jeevan Mission, lies with State/UT Governments. The Government of India supports the States by providing technical and financial assistance.

Under the Jal Jeevan Mission, as per existing guidelines, Bureau of Indian Standards' BIS:10500 standards are adopted as benchmarks for quality of water being supplied through the piped water supply schemes. Further, under JJM, while planning water supply schemes to provide tap water supply to households, priority is given to quality-affected habitations. While allocating the funds to States/ UTs in a particular financial year, 10% weightage is given to the population residing in habitations affected by chemical contaminants.

Since, planning, implementation and commissioning of piped water supply schemes based on a safe water source may take time, purely as an interim measure, States/ UTs have been advised to install community water purification plants (CWPPs) in such habitations, to provide potable water to every household at the rate of 8–10 litre per capita per day (lpcd) to meet their drinking and cooking requirements.

To enable States/ UTs to test water samples for water quality, and for sample collection, reporting, monitoring and surveillance of drinking water sources, an online JJM – Water Quality Management Information System (WQMIS) portal has been developed. The State–wise details of water quality test reported through WQMIS are available in public domain.

In addition to JJM, the government of India has taken several other initiatives for monitoring and improving the quality of water, including ground water resources in the country. Some of the important measures are:-

- Data on ground water quality available with CGWB are made available in public domain through reports as well as through the web site (http://www.cgwb.gov.in) for use by various stakeholders. The data is also shared with concerned State Governments for taking necessary remedial measures.
- Under the National Aquifer Mapping Programme (NAQUIM) of CGWB, special attention is being given to the aspect of ground water quality including contamination by toxic substances in ground water.

(d) Under the JJM or other central government schemes, funds are not released separately for regulating pH levels in ground and drinking water. Overall funds allocated, drawn and utilized for the state of Andhra Pradesh under JJM in the last five years is provided in **Annexure –II.**

(e) The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has conducted 1439 nos. of Public Interaction Program (PIP) throughout the country that covers various aspects of groundwater management, including its quality. These programs are designed to educate the public about the importance of groundwater, different water quality parameters, including pH and the measures needed to ensure its conservation & safe use.

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ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2941 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 08.08.2024 REGARDING "PH LEVELS OF GROUND WATER".

Details of the locations showing pH less than Permissible Limit (BIS) of 6.5 in the State of Andhra Pradesh

Sl. No.	District	Mandal	Location
1	Chittoor	Karvetinagar	Karvethinagaram
2	Kadapa	Khajipet	Dumpalagattu
3	Eluru	Mudinepalli	Bominampadu
4	Eluru	Pedapadu	Vempadu
5	Eluru	Peddapadu	Peddapadu
6	Krishna	Machilipatnam	Chinnapuram
7	Krishna	Machilipatnam	Sultan Nagaram
8	Krishna	Gudivada	Moturu

Details of the locations showing pH more than Permissible Limit (BIS) of 8.5 in the State of Andhra Pradesh

Sl. No.	District	Mandal	Location
1	Palnadu	Amaravthi	Amaravati
2	Ananthapur	Yellanur	Kalluru
3	Chittoor	Irala	Kanipakam
4	Nellore	Kondapuram	Bhimavarapupadu
5	Prakasham	Thallur	East Gangavaram
6	Kadapa	B.Kodur	Prabhalaveedu
7	NTR	Veerullapadu	Narasimha Rao Palem
8	Bapatla	Santamaguluru	Santamaguluru

ANNEXURE-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2941 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 08.08.2024 REGARDING "PH LEVELS OF GROUND WATER".

Jal Jeevan Mission: Funds allocated, drawn and reported utilization in last 5 years with respect to Andhra Pradesh*

(in Rs. Cr)

Year	Central Allocation	Expenditure out of Central Allocation	Expenditure under State Share
2020-21	790.48	427.73	180.97
2021-22	3182.88	234.93	235.39
2022-23	3458.20	305.08	98.75
2023-24	6530.49	862.09	940.04
2024-25 (up to 04/08/2024)	2520.97	74.94	68.47

*Source : JJM-IMIS

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