

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. *158

ANSWERED ON 05.12.2024

GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AND REGULATION SCHEME

*158 SHRI DAGGUMALLA PRASADA RAO SHRI KESINENI SIVANATH

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the total progress achieved under the Ground Water Management and Regulation (GWM&R) Scheme in the country especially in the State of Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) the details of the total number of notified areas for regulation of ground water development by the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) especially in the State of Andhra Pradesh, district-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has any data regarding the complaints of violations under the notified areas during the last three years and the current year and if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (d) the details of the total number of identified, in progress and completed projects under the component for artificial recharge during the last five years; and
- (e) whether the Government has any plan to incorporate new components under the scheme by considering the extension of the scheme and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI C R PAATIL)

(a) to (e) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. *158 TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.12.2024 IN LOK SABHA REGARDING “GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AND REGULATION SCHEME”

(a) Ground Water Management and Regulation (GWMR) Scheme is a Central Sector Scheme being implemented since 2007-08 by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB). Major activities being taken up under the scheme include regular ground water level and quality monitoring throughout the country along with annual quality and resource assessment; National Aquifer Mapping and Management (NAQUIM) Programme; Regulation and control of ground water withdrawal in States/UTs; Taking up few demonstrative recharge projects in selected water stressed areas and Strengthening of scientific infrastructure for technological up gradation.

The major activity under the scheme is National Aquifer Mapping and Management Programme (NAQUIM) which is being implemented with the objectives to delineate and characterize the aquifers and develop plans for ground water management. Under this component, so far the entire mappable area of the country of around 25 lakh sq.km has been covered along with 1.41 lakh sq kms of Andhra Pradesh. Further, aquifer maps and management plans have been shared with all the State and District authorities for suitable demand side and supply side interventions.

(b) Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) regulates abstraction cum use of Groundwater in the country as per the provisions of its Guidelines dated 24.09.2020. The concept of Notified Areas is no longer applicable as per the Guidelines dated 24.09.2020. As per these Guidelines, NOCs are being issued and abstraction charges are being levied based on the classification of Assessment Units (wherein the projects are located), into Safe, Critical, Semi-critical, Over Exploited and Saline categories. Further, as per the dynamic ground water resource assessment, 2023, out of 6553 total Assessment Units (AUs) in the country, 736 AUs have been categorized as Over-Exploited (OE), .

As per the information received from the state government, regulation and management of ground water resources in the state is being done under Andhra Pradesh Water, Land & Trees Act (APWLTA). Further, under the prevailing ground water regulation regime in the state, a total of 188 villages in seven districts have been notified for regulation of ground water development in Andhra Pradesh. District-wise details are provided in **Annexure**.

(c) CGWA has been acting promptly, either *suo moto* or based on complaints against illegal extraction of ground water and non-compliance of NOC conditions. Environmental Compensation (EC) charges and penalties are imposed against the violators as per the provisions of its Guidelines. As per records, penalties have been imposed and recovered from 5568 cases and Environmental compensation has been imposed and recovered from 1150 cases up to November 2024.

Further, as per the information received from APWLTA no complaints of violations in notified areas have been received by them in the past three years including the current year.

(d) Under GWM &R Scheme, important artificial recharge projects handled by CGWB in the past five years include construction of AR structures in Aspirational Districts of Osmanabad, YSR Kadapa and Warangal; construction of innovative Bridge-cum-Bhandaras meant for water storage as well as artificial recharge in Wardha and Amravati districts of Maharashtra; and Ground water augmentation through artificial recharge in identified water stressed areas of Rajasthan comprising of Jodhpur, Jaisalmer and Sikar districts. All put together, since 2018, 195 check dams, 113 recharge shafts, 8 percolation tanks, 5 bridge-cum-bhandaras, 2 sub-surface barriers and 2 dams have been constructed across the country under GWM & R scheme. Apart from GWM & R scheme, the Ministry of Jal Shakti is implementing Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA) across the country since 2019 in mission mode and currently JSA 2024 is in progress. Since the inception of JSA, a total of around 1.57 cr. water conservation and rain water harvesting structures have been completed/ongoing in the country and an expenditure of Rs. 1.15 lakh cr has been incurred towards this through convergence with MGNREGS alone.

(e) Present phase of GWM&R Scheme has been approved for a period from 2021-2026 and there is no proposal for incorporation of new components to the Scheme under consideration of the Ministry.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *158 TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.12.2024 REGARDING “GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AND REGULATION SCHEME”.

Sl.No.	District	No. of Notified Villages
1.	Ananthapuram	6
2.	Chittoor	1
3.	Palnadu	16
4.	Prakasam	57
5.	Sri Satya Sai	42
6.	Srikakulam	53
7.	YSR Kadapa	13
	Total	188
