

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1708**

ANSWERED ON 05.12.2024

**CONSTRUCTION OF RAINWATER HARVESTING STRUCTURES UNDER JSJB INITIATIVE**

1708. SMT. JYOTSNA CHARANDAS MAHANT SHRI RAJESH RANJAN

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

- (a) whether the Government has a concrete strategy to construct one million rainwater harvesting structures under the Jal Sanchay, Jan Bhagidari (JSJB) initiative and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any specific regions or water-stressed districts have been prioritised under this initiative, if so, details thereof; and
- (c) the monitoring and evaluation mechanisms in place to assess the effectiveness of these rainwater harvesting structures in achieving groundwater recharge and conservation goals?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI**

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari (JSJB) initiative has been launched as a part of Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain (JSA: CTR) campaign with a special emphasis on construction of artificial recharge structures across the country. The Government has adopted a convergent approach for constructing at least a million artificial recharge structures under this initiative. This includes leveraging resources from schemes such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), Per Drop More Crop, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY), Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAMPA), Finance Commission grants, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) contributions etc. This convergent funding ensures synergy and maximizes impact. The Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari initiative aims to conserve every drop of water through collective efforts, following a whole-of-society and whole-of-government approach.

(b) No specific regions or water-stressed districts have been prioritised under this initiative. The initiative focuses on both rural and urban areas across the country encouraging cost-effective, local solutions tailored to specific water challenges across different regions ensuring long-term sustainability.

(c) The Government has implemented robust monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to assess the effectiveness of the Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari (JSJB) initiative. The Jal Sanchay dashboard has been created

which is used for tracking the progress and locations of recharge structures, with geo-tagged data to monitor their implementation. To strengthen monitoring, Nodal Officers have been designated from the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) and the Central Water Commission (CWC). These officers work in collaboration with District Nodal Officers to ensure the timely and accurate updating of data on the dashboard. In addition, to uphold data integrity and accountability, 1% of the constructed recharge structures will be subject to verification and testing by CGWB and CWC Nodal Officers. These measures underscore the Government's commitment to transparent, accountable and data-driven governance in the implementation of the JSJB initiative.

The Dynamic groundwater resources of India undergo assessment every year through a collaborative effort involving State Governments and CGWB. Periodic estimation of Dynamic groundwater resources provides pivotal information concerning annual replenishment, utilization and the overall accessibility of groundwater to various stakeholders across all assessment units in the country.

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