

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3936

ANSWERED ON 19.12.2024

JAL SHAKTI KENDRAS IN TAMIL NADU

3936. SHRI MALAIYARASAN D

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

- (a) the number of Jal Shakti Kendras established in Tamil Nadu including Kallakurichi Constituency;
- (b) the key objectives of the Jal Shakti Kendras and the services that are being provided to the public;
- (c) the total funds allocated for the establishment and operation of these Kendras;
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to expand the network of these Kendras to underserved and rural areas; and
- (e) the impact of these Kendras on water conservation, management and accessibility in their regions?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) Under Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain (JSA: CTR) all the States/UTs have been requested to set up Jal Shakti Kendras (JSKs) in all the districts of the country including all the districts of Tamil Nadu. As per information uploaded on JSA: CTR portal (jsactr.mowr.gov.in) by the State Government, JSKs have been established in all the 38 districts of Tamil Nadu including the Kallakurichi and Salem districts of Kallakurichi Constituency.

(b) Jal Shakti Kendras(JSKs) are set up with the objective to serve as dedicated resource and knowledge centers, playing a pivotal role in water conservation efforts. They are providing comprehensive information on water-related issues, including best practices in conservation and effective water-saving techniques. Additionally, JSKs are offering expert guidance and technical support to local communities and district administrations, enabling effective water management strategies.

(c) No separate funds are allotted to States for establishment and operation of the Kendras from Ministry of Jal Shakti. They are operated through pooling of resources both human and infrastructure. However, a one time pilot grant of Rs. 5 lakh each was released to Pali, Yadgir, Thane and Pune from Rajasthan, Karnataka and Maharashtra States respectively.

(d) As part of the Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain (JSA: CTR), the Ministry of Jal Shakti has requested all States and Union Territories to establish Jal Shakti Kendras (JSKs) in every district, ensuring

comprehensive coverage, including underserved and rural areas. According to the advisory issued to all States/UTs, JSKs should be set up in institutional structures that are openly and easily accessible to the public, operating 24/7. Ideally, these centers should be located in the District Magistrate's office or other places with significant public footfall. District administrations have been encouraged to select central and well-connected locations, ensuring that residents from rural and underserved areas can access the kendras with ease.

(e) Jal Shakti Kendras (JSKs) serve as dynamic resource and knowledge hubs, driving transformative change in water conservation, management, and accessibility. In addition, JSKs assist District Magistrates (DMs)/Collectors in coordinating all water-related activities within the district. They function as facilitation centers for planning, preparation and addressing water-related issues. As knowledge centers, JSKs disseminate information on critical topics such as water conservation methods, water use efficiency, groundwater policies, efficient irrigation techniques, water quality and greywater management. They also serve as technical guidance centers, offering advice and support to local communities on these matters.
