

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2383**

ANSWERED ON 13.03.2025

**LOSS OF GROUNDWATER**

2383. SHRI VISHWESHWAR HEGDE KAGERI

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

- (a) whether it is true that many States have lost 64.6 bn m<sup>3</sup> of groundwater;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to raise the groundwater level in the country including Karnataka?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI**

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

**(a) & b)** Assessment of Dynamic Ground Water Resources of the country is being annually carried out jointly by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) and the concerned State Nodal/Ground Water Department. On comparison of data from 2017 assessment to that of 2024, it is seen that total annual extractable ground water in the country has increased from 393 Billion Cubic Meters (BCM) to 406 BCM during the period. Further, the Stage of Ground Water Extraction (SoE), which is defined as a ratio of total annual ground water extraction for all purposes to total annual extractable ground water resources, has decreased from 63% to 60.47% during the same period, indicating overall improvement in the ground water situation of the country, albeit with regional variations.

**(c)** Water being a State subject, the responsibility of addressing the ground water related issues lies primarily with the concerned State Governments. However, the Central Government facilitates the efforts of the State Governments by way of technical and financial assistance through its various schemes and projects. In this direction, the important steps taken by the Ministry of Jal Shakti and other central ministries for improvement of ground water resources of the country, including for the state of Karnataka, are given below:-

- i. The Government is implementing Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA) in the country since 2019 which is a mission mode and time bound programme for harvesting the rainfall and taking up water conservation activities. Currently, JSA 2024 is being implemented in the country with special focus on 151 water stressed districts of the country, including 10 such districts in

Karnataka. JSA is an umbrella campaign under which various ground water recharge and conservation related works are being taken up in convergence with various central and state schemes. As per the information under JSA, a total of around 15.88 lakh water conservation and rain water harvesting structures have been constructed in Karnataka in last 4 years.

- ii. CGWB has taken up National Aquifer Mapping and Management Programme (NAQUIM) with an aim to delineate aquifer disposition and their characterization. Entire mappable area of the country of around 25 lakh sq. km, including 1.91 lakh sq km of Karnataka, has been mapped under the scheme and management plans have been shared with the respective State/District administrations for implementation.
- iii. Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Groundwater- 2020 has been prepared by the CGWB for the entire country, including Karnataka and shared with States/UTs providing a broad outline for construction of around 1.42 crore rain water harvesting and artificial recharge structures in the country to harness 185 BCM (Billion cubic meter) of water. For Karnataka, the Masterplan recommends around 61,225 structures.
- iv. M/o Jal Shakti is implementing Atal Bhujal Yojana, which is a community led scheme for participatory ground water management focusing on demand side management of ground water in 80 water stressed districts in 7 States, Karnataka being one among them.
- v. Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare (DA & FW), GoI, is implementing Per Drop More Crop Scheme in the country, including Karnataka, since 2015-16, which focuses on enhancing water use efficiency at farm level through Micro Irrigation and better on-farm water management practices to optimize the use of available water resources.
- vi. Mission Amrit Sarovar was launched by the Government of India which aimed at developing and rejuvenating at least 75 water bodies in each district of the country, including Karnataka for the purpose of increasing water storage and boosting ground water recharge. As an outcome nearly 69,000 Amrit Sarovars have been constructed/rejuvenated in the country, with 4,056 in Karnataka.
- vii. M/o Jal Shakti is promoting conjunctive use of surface water and groundwater and to reduce over-dependence on groundwater, surface water based Major and Medium irrigation projects have been taken up in the country under PMKSY-AIBP scheme in collaboration with States/UTs.
- viii. A total of 93 Public Interaction Programmes (PIPs) and 50 Tier-II & Tier -III trainings have been organized so far by CGWB in various parts of Karnataka to promote awareness on groundwater among public.

\*\*\*\*\*