GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3149

ANSWERED ON 07.08.2025

WATER CONSERVATION

†3149. SHRI ANOOP PRADHAN VALMIKI

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

(a) whether the Government is planning to focus more on water conservation and reduce its use in the agriculture sector which takes away a major part of this essential resource;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to recharge underground aquifers and replenish major reservoirs across the country, particularly in Uttar Pradesh?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) to (c) Water being a State subject, the aspects related to water resources including its conservation are studied, planned, funded and executed by the State Governments themselves as per their own resources and priorities. The Central Government supplements the measures and efforts being taken up by the State Governments.

However, the Government of India takes various initiatives on water conservation and its efficient use in the agriculture sector. Major steps taken by the Government for water conservation and rainwater harvesting to manage the increasing water stress in the country are as follows:

i. The Ministry of Jal Shakti has been implementing Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA) since 2019 on an annual basis. In the current year, Ministry of Jal Shakti is implementing Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain (JSA: CTR) 2025, 6th in the series of JSAs, in all the districts (rural as well as urban) of the country. JSA: CTR is a convergence of various Central Government schemes and funds like MGNREGS, Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), Per Drop More Crop, Repair, Renovation and Restoration Components under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY), Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA), Finance Commission grants, State Government schemes, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds etc. One of the major interventions undertaken under the campaign includes constructions and repair or rainwater harvesting structures including rooftop and water harvesting structures. The details of

intervention-wise progress of JSA:CTR across the country and Uttar Pradesh is attached at **Annexure-I**.

To further strengthen JSA: CTR, "Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari" (JSJB) initiative was launched in Surat, Gujarat on 06th September, 2024, which focuses on intensifying community mobilization to build low cost rainwater harvesting structures in saturation mode. The Jal Sanchay programme started in Gujarat by leveraging community funds, individual donations, Corporate Social Responsibility Funds etc. for construction of low cost structures like borewells, recharge shafts, recharge pits, using locally available material, to harvest rainwater, to boost ground water level and provide local tailor made solution to water issues. A total of 27,62,620 artificial groundwater recharge and storage works were on-boarded under JSJB 1.0, out of which 23,83,162 works have been completed, as on 31st May 2025. The details of district-wise progess under JSJB initiative in the State of Uttar Pradesh is attached at **Annexure-II**.

ii. The Ministry of Jal Shakti has set up the Bureau of Water Use Efficiency (BWUE) under the National Water Mission on 20.10.2022, to act as a facilitator for promotion of improving water use efficiency across various sectors namely irrigation, drinking water supply, power generation, industries, etc. in the country. To promote water conservation and reduce usage in the agriculture sector, BWUE completed 16 baseline studies across major and medium reservoirs/dams in various states. These studies evaluated water use efficiency by examining dam/reservoir performance, conveyance and on-farm application efficiencies, and irrigation potential utilization. Based on comprehensive field data, the reports offer detailed recommendations such as canal lining, modernization of irrigation infrastructure, adoption of micro-irrigation techniques, and crop diversification strategies.

iii. Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has completed the National Aquifer Mapping (NAQUIM) Project in the entire mappable area of about 25 lakh sq. km. which has been shared with the respective State agencies for implementation. The management plans include various water conservation measures through recharge structures. Based on NAQUIM studies, groundwater management plans are prepared wherein crop-diversification, promotion and adoption of water use efficiency & conservation practices viz. drip/sprinkler are proposed as one of the demand side management measures for sustainable groundwater development. The management plans are prepared and shared with the respective State governments for taking appropriate measures / implementation. CGWB also prepared a Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Groundwater- 2020 in consultation with States/UTs which is a macro level plan indicating various structures for the different terrain conditions of the country including estimated cost.

iv. The Cabinet approved the Modernization of Command Area Development and Water Management (MCAD) as a sub-scheme of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) for the period 2025-2026 with an initial total outlay of Rs.1600 crore. The scheme aims for modernization of the irrigation water supply network to supply of irrigation water from existing canals or other sources in a designated cluster. It focuses on creating robust backend infrastructure for micro-irrigation by farmers from established source to the Farm gate with underground pressurized piped irrigation increasing the Water Use Efficiency (WUE) at the farm level, agriculture production & productivity and result in reduced usage of water in agriculture sector.

v. Government of India has been implementing a scheme namely Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) which inter-alia includes water conservation and water harvesting structures.

vi. Financial assistance is given to various States under 15th Finance Commission tied grants which can be inter-alia utilized for rainwater harvesting.

vii. Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) has provisions for harvesting the rainwater through storm water drains into water body (which is not receiving sewage/effluent). Through preparation of 'Aquifer Management Plan' cities targets to strategize groundwater recharge augmentation by developing a roadmap for improving rain water harvesting within city limits. Through IEC campaign, awareness is created about practices for water conservation like rainwater harvesting.

viii. Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs formulated guidelines for the States to adopt measures suitable to local conditions, such as Unified Building Bye Laws (UBBL) of Delhi, 2016, Model Building Bye Laws (MBBL), 2016 and Urban and Regional Development Plan Formulation and Implementation (URDPFI) Guidelines, 2014 with adequate focus on requirement of rainwater harvesting and water conservation measures.

ix. Government of India is implementing Atal Bhujal Yojana in 80 districts of 7 States, viz., Haryana, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh for a period of 6 years from 01.04.2020. The scheme marks a paradigm shift from groundwater development to groundwater management.

x. Government of India is implementing "Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY)" with an aim to enhance physical access of water on farm and expand cultivable area under assured irrigation, improve on farm water use efficiency, introduce sustainable water conservation practices etc. PMKSY has three components/ schemes namely Har Khet Ko Pani (HKKP), Repair, Renovation & Restoration (RRR) Scheme of Water Bodies and Surface Minor irrigation (SMI) Scheme.

xi. National Water Policy (2012) has been formulated by Department of Water Resources, RD & GR, which inter-alia advocates rainwater harvesting and conservation of water and also highlights the need for augmenting the availability of water through direct use of rainfall.

xii. Department of Land Resources (DoLR) implements Watershed Development Component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (WDC-PMKSY) for the development of rainfed and degraded lands in the country. The activities undertaken, inter-alia, include ridge area treatment, drainage line treatment, soil and moisture conservation, rainwater harvesting, nursery raising, pasture development, livelihoods for asset-less persons etc. WDC-PMKSY, through these interventions, seeks to ensure sustainable development through improved natural resource management and better resilience of farmers to climate change

xiii. The activity of installing rainwater harvesting structures at the Gram Panchayat level has been included in the Panchayat Development Plan (PDP) for Panchayats to opt for the same as per their needs for execution from XV Finance Commission (FC) funds or any other available funds with them. Further, Revamped scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) also provides support to States/UTs for Capacity Building and training of Elected Representatives (ERs) of Panchayats, Officials and other stakeholders of the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs).

xiv. The Ministry of Jal Shakti is promoting various efficient water use techniques in agriculture sector such as micro-irrigation (drip and sprinkler irrigation systems), crop diversification towards low water consuming crops, laser land levelling, Direct Seeding of Rice, Zero-Till/Minimum tillage, Mulching, polyhouse/shade-nets etc to reduce groundwater extraction in agriculture. These systems help in reducing water use by 40–80% while improving crop yield. Through schemes like Atal Bhujal Yojana various water conservation structures including ponds, check dams, and rooftop rainwater harvesting structures are constructed to replenish groundwater levels.

***

ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3149 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 07.08.2025 REGARDING "WATER CONSERVATION".

Jal Shakti Abhiyan:Catch the Rain (across country)							
National Water Mission, Ministry of Jal Shakti							
Intervention-Wise Status Report (JSA 2019 - 2025)							
*Figures Showing No. of Works Completed & Ongoing							
S.No.	**Year**	**Water Conservation and Rain Water Harvesting**	**Renovation of Traditional Water Bodies**	**Reuse and Recharge Structures**	**Watershed Development**	**Total Water Related Works**	**Intensive Afforestation**
1	2019	273256	44497	142740	159354	619,847	123,599,566
2	2021	1627677	295836	832596	1918913	4,675,022	367,660,580
3	2022	1241770	267782	872489	1628706	4,010,747	783,836,035
4	2023	1242357	283786	680256	1484611	3,691,010	55,026,292
5	2024	1301806	308711	534564	2021450	4,166,531	64,845,783
6	2025	700287	107760	170916	703393	1,682,356	17,408,545
Total		**6,387,153**	**1,308,372**	**3,233,561**	**7,916,427**	**18,845,513**	**1,412,376,801**

Jal Shakti Abhiyan:Catch the Rain						
National Water Mission, Ministry of Jal Shakti						
UTTAR PRADESH - Intervention wise Progress (Status from 22-03-2021 to 04-08-2025)						
JSA Year	**Water Conservation and Rain Water Harvesting**	**Renovation of Traditional Water Bodies**	**Reuse and Recharge Structures**	**Watershed Development**	**Total Water Related Works (Year-wise)**	**Intensive Afforestation**
2021	86599	35944	44610	407109	**574262**	6188274
2022	112283	53502	39264	494147	**699196**	20993215
2023	101619	45078	49372	401270	**597339**	400735974
2024	130475	48370	32402	576702	**787949**	33063528
2025	56810	18074	6411	213579	**294874**	2643315
Total	**487786**	**200968**	**172059**	**2092807**	**2953620**	**463624306**

ANNEXURE-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3149 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 07.08.2025 REGARDING "WATER CONSERVATION".

District-wise progress under Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari 1.0			
(Status as on 31.05.2025)			
S.No	**State**	**District**	**Completed Works**
1	UTTAR PRADESH	AGRA	212
2	UTTAR PRADESH	ALIGARH	82
3	UTTAR PRADESH	AMBEDKAR NAGAR	5
4	UTTAR PRADESH	Amethi	279
5	UTTAR PRADESH	AMROHA	2387
6	UTTAR PRADESH	AURAIYA	24
7	UTTAR PRADESH	AYODHYA	97
8	UTTAR PRADESH	AZAMGARH	585
9	UTTAR PRADESH	BAGHPAT	1023
10	UTTAR PRADESH	BAHRAICH	320
11	UTTAR PRADESH	BALLIA	65
12	UTTAR PRADESH	BALRAMPUR	488
13	UTTAR PRADESH	BANDA	67
14	UTTAR PRADESH	BARABANKI	252
15	UTTAR PRADESH	BAREILLY	128
16	UTTAR PRADESH	BASTI	1
17	UTTAR PRADESH	BHADOHI	5
18	UTTAR PRADESH	BIJNOR	1666
19	UTTAR PRADESH	BUDAUN	49
20	UTTAR PRADESH	BULANDSHAHR	270
21	UTTAR PRADESH	CHANDAULI	37
22	UTTAR PRADESH	CHITRAKOOT	15761
23	UTTAR PRADESH	DEORIA	17
24	UTTAR PRADESH	ETAH	94
25	UTTAR PRADESH	ETAWAH	265
26	UTTAR PRADESH	FARRUKHABAD	200
27	UTTAR PRADESH	FATEHPUR	127
28	UTTAR PRADESH	FIROZABAD	51
29	UTTAR PRADESH	GAUTAM BUDDHA NAGAR	182
30	UTTAR PRADESH	GHAZIABAD	148
31	UTTAR PRADESH	GHAZIPUR	344
32	UTTAR PRADESH	GONDA	4
33	UTTAR PRADESH	HAMIRPUR	54
34	UTTAR PRADESH	HAPUR	149
35	UTTAR PRADESH	HARDOI	32
36	UTTAR PRADESH	HATHRAS	11
37	UTTAR PRADESH	JALAUN	16279

38	UTTAR PRADESH	JAUNPUR	2641
39	UTTAR PRADESH	JHANSI	1214
40	UTTAR PRADESH	KANNAUJ	313
41	UTTAR PRADESH	KANPUR DEHAT	126
42	UTTAR PRADESH	KANPUR NAGAR	37
43	UTTAR PRADESH	Kasganj	22
44	UTTAR PRADESH	KAUSHAMBI	285
45	UTTAR PRADESH	KHERI	10
46	UTTAR PRADESH	KUSHI NAGAR	49
47	UTTAR PRADESH	LALITPUR	1256
48	UTTAR PRADESH	LUCKNOW	200
49	UTTAR PRADESH	MAHARAJGANJ	15
50	UTTAR PRADESH	MAHOBA	746
51	UTTAR PRADESH	MAINPURI	234
52	UTTAR PRADESH	MATHURA	34
53	UTTAR PRADESH	MAU	711
54	UTTAR PRADESH	MEERUT	403
55	UTTAR PRADESH	MIRZAPUR	35509
56	UTTAR PRADESH	MORADABAD	10
57	UTTAR PRADESH	MUZAFFARNAGAR	163
58	UTTAR PRADESH	PILIBHIT	272
59	UTTAR PRADESH	PRATAPGARH	312
60	UTTAR PRADESH	PRAYAGRAJ	55
61	UTTAR PRADESH	RAE BARELI	23
62	UTTAR PRADESH	RAMPUR	233
63	UTTAR PRADESH	SAHARANPUR	56
64	UTTAR PRADESH	SAMBHAL	362
65	UTTAR PRADESH	SANT KABEER NAGAR	720
66	UTTAR PRADESH	SHAHJAHANPUR	248
67	UTTAR PRADESH	SHAMLI	73
68	UTTAR PRADESH	SHRAVASTI	106
69	UTTAR PRADESH	SIDDHARTH NAGAR	3
70	UTTAR PRADESH	SITAPUR	24
71	UTTAR PRADESH	SONBHADRA	42
72	UTTAR PRADESH	SULTANPUR	2516
73	UTTAR PRADESH	UNNAO	126
74	UTTAR PRADESH	VARANASI	24409
Total			**115318**

*****