GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3185

ANSWERED ON 18.12.2025

INCLUSION OF DAKSHINA KANNADA UNDER ATAL BHUJAL YOJANA

3185. SHRI CAPTAIN BRIJESH CHOWTA:

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

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal or recommendation from the State Government of Karnataka to include Dakshina Kannada district under the Atal Bhujal Yojana (Atal Jal);

(b) if so, the details thereof including the taluks or Gram Panchayats proposed to be covered and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any recent survey or study to identify the causes of water scarcity or depletion of drinking water sources in Mangalore and other parts of Dakshina Kannada district;

(d) if so, the details and key findings thereof; and

(e) the present status of groundwater levels in each Gram Panchayat of Dakshina Kannada district along with comparative data on changes observed from 2020-21 to 2024-25?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) & (b) Atal Bhujal Yojana was a pilot scheme for community led participatory groundwater management, implemented in priority water stressed areas across 8,203 priority water stressed Gram Panchayats of 229 blocks in 80 districts of seven states viz. Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

In Karnataka, this scheme was implemented in 1199 Gram Panchayats across 41 Over Exploited Taluks in 14 districts, which did not include Dakshina Kannada. The scheme demonstrably improved groundwater management in the implemented area and provided a scalable template. However, it is to add that Atal Bhujal Yojana was conceived as a pilot scheme with a fixed duration & outlay and the Scheme's tenure has ended now.

(c) & (d) Dynamic Ground Water Resources of the country, including for the state of Karnataka, are being assessed annually, jointly by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) and State Governments. As per the latest assessment of 2025, for the district of Dakshina Kannada, whose main city is Mangalore, the total Annual Ground Water Recharge is 73,327 hectare meter (ham) and the Annual Extractable Ground Water Resource is 65,995 ham. The total Annual Ground Water Extraction of the entire district for the year 2025

has been estimated as 30,166 ham and the Stage of Ground Water Extraction (SoE), which is a measure of Annual Ground Water Extraction for all uses (irrigation, industrial and domestic uses) over Annual Extractable Ground Water Resource, is arrived at 45.71 % for the district as a whole, placing it in the 'Safe' category**.**

Also, all the 9 assessment units (Taluks) within the district of Dakshina Kannada, have been categorized as "Safe".

However, despite favourable assessment figures, some pockets may be experiencing seasonal ground water stress due to various factors like high population density, rapid urbanization and industrialization, climate change etc.

(e) CGWB monitors groundwater levels throughout the country including Dakshina Kannada district of Karnataka state, four times in every year, through its network of monitoring stations and not the GP wise. The block-wise ground water level data measured during Post monsoon 2024 for Dakshina Kannada district is given in **Annexure-I,** which indicates that approximately 95% of the analyzed wells have water levels ranging between 0 to 10 meters below ground level (mbgl), indicating ease of access to ground water.

Further, in order to assess the long-term fluctuation in ground water levels, groundwater level data of Post Monsoon November 2024 has been compared with the mean water level data of previous five years, i.e. from November 2020-2024, as presented in **Annexure II.** Analysis of this data indicates that about 86% of the well monitored have registered rise in groundwater level in 2024 as compared to the mean of previous 5 years.

***

ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NUMBER 3185 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 18.12.2025 REGARDING "INCLUSION OF DAKSHINA KANNADA UNDER ATAL BHUJAL YOJANA".

Block-wise Depth to Water Level Distribution of Percentage of Observation Wells Post-Monsoon 2024 (Unconfined Aquifer) of Dakshina Kannada District of Karnataka

Sr. No.	Block Name	Number of well analysed	Number/Percentage of wells showing depth to water level (mbgl) in the range of											
			0 to 2		2 to 5		5 to 10		10 to 20		20 to 40		> 40	
			No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1	Bantval	16	0	0.0	10	62.5	6	37.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
2	Beltangadi	16	1	6.3	6	37.5	9	56.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
3	Kadaba	15	4	26.7	5	33.3	6	40.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
4	Mangluru/Manglore	27	4	14.8	7	25.9	12	44.4	4	14.8	0	0.0	0	0.0
5	Mudubidare	4	1	25.0	0	0.0	3	75.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
6	Puttur	5	0	0.0	1	20.0	4	80.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
7	Sulya	8	2	25.0	2	25.0	3	37.5	1	12.5	0	0.0	0	0.0
	Total	**91**	**12**	**13.2**	**31**	**34.1**	**43**	**47.3**	**5**	**5.4**	**0**	**0.0**	**0**	**0.0**

ANNEXURE-II

ANNEXURE-II REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NUMBER 3185 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 18.12.2025 REGARDING "INCLUSION OF DAKSHINA KANNADA UNDER ATAL BHUJAL YOJANA".

Block-wise Water Level Fluctuation (in meters) with Mean (Post-Monsoon 2020 to 2023) and Post-Monsoon 2024 (Unconfined Aquifer) of Dakshina Kannada District of Karnataka

Sr. No.	Block Name	Number of wells analysed	Number/Percentage of wells showing fluctuation to water level (m) in the range of															
			Rise								Fall							
			0 to 2		2 to 4		> 4		Cumulative Rise	Cumulative rise %	0 to 2		2 to 4		> 4		Cumulative Fall	Cumulative Fall %
1	Bantval	16	14	87.5	0	0	0	0	14	87.50%	2	12.5	0	0	0	0	2	12.50%
2	Beltangadi	14	12	85.7	1	7.1	0	0	13	92.86%	0	0	1	7.1	0	0	1	7.14%
3	Kadaba	15	10	66.7	2	13.3	1	6.7	13	86.67%	2	13.3	0	0	0	0	2	13.33%
4	Mangaluru	26	19	73.1	0	0	1	3.8	20	76.92%	6	23.1	0	0	0	0	6	23.08%
5	Mudubidare	3	3	100	0	0	0	0	3	100.00%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
6	Puttur	5	4	80	0	0	0	0	4	80.00%	1	20	0	0	0	0	1	20.00%
7	Sulya	8	8	100	0	0	0	0	8	100.00%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
	Total	**87**	**70**	**80.5**	**3**	**3.4**	**2**	**2.3**	**75**	**86.21%**	**11**	**12.6**	**1**	**1.1**	**0**	**0**	**12**	**13.79%**

*****