GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES,
RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1233
ANSWERED ON 03.03.2016

DECLINE IN WATER LEVEL OF WELLS

1233. SHRI PRATHAP SIMHA

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has revealed that 56% of the wells which were analysed to keep a tap on ground water level, showed decline in its level as compared to the average of preceding ten years period;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether it is a fact that 90% of the waste water discharge in rivers does not meet environmental norms while 65% rain water runs off, goes into sea which is a major waste; and
(d) if so, the details thereof and the necessary steps taken by the Government to harness the ground water through various means including rainwater harvesting?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION

(PROF. SANWAR LAL JAT)

(a) & (b) Central Ground Water Board has informed that their ground water monitoring data for pre-monsoon 2015, compared with decadal mean of pre-monsoon (2005-2014), indicates that out of the total wells analyzed, around 47% of the wells are showing decline in ground water level in various parts of the Country. State-wise details are given at **Annexure**.
(c) & (d) India receives an average rainfall of about 1170 mm which corresponds to an annual precipitation of about 4000 BCM (Billion Cubic Metre) including snowfall. However, there is considerable variation in rainfall both temporally and spatially. Nearly 75% of this i.e., 3000 BCM occurs during the monsoon season is confined to 3 to 4 month (June to September) in a year. After accounting for evaporation and evapo-transpiration, the average annual water availability in the Country has been assessed as 1869 BCM. It has been estimated that owing to topographic, hydrological and other constraints, the utilizable water is 1123 BCM, which comprises of 690 BCM of surface water and 433 BCM of replenishable ground water resources. As per assessment made by the Central Water Commission (CWC) in 2010, the live storage capacity of completed project is 253.388 BCM. As per assessment conducted by Central Pollution Control

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Board (CPCB) in 2015, the sewage generation and treatment capacity for Urban Population of India for the year is estimated to be 62,000 MLD (Million Litres per Day) approximately against sewage treatment capacity of 23,277 MLD with 816 STPs(Sewage Treatment Plants).

Central Government has taken several steps emphasizing rain water harvesting measures in various parts of the Country as under:

- The National Water Policy (2012) formulated by this Ministry, inter-alia, advocates conservation, promotion and protection of water and highlights the need for augmenting the availability of water through rain water harvesting, direct use of rainfall and other management measures. The National Water Policy (2012) has been forwarded to all State Governments/ UTs and concerned Ministries/ Departments of Central Government for appropriate action.
- Further, this Ministry has circulated a Model Bill to all the States/UTs to enable them to enact suitable ground water legislation for its regulation and development which includes provision of rain water harvesting. So far, 15 States/UTs have adopted and implemented the ground water legislation on the lines of Model bill. 31 States/UTs have made rain water harvesting mandatory by enacting laws or by formulating rules & regulations or by including provisions in Building bye-laws or through suitable Government Orders.
- CGWB has also prepared a conceptual document entitled “Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water in India” during 2013, involving ground water scientists/experts. The Master Plan envisages construction of 1.11 crore rain water harvesting and artificial recharge structures in the Country at an estimated cost of Rs. 79,178 Crores to harness 85 BCM (Billion Cubic Metre) of water. The augmented ground water resources will enhance the availability of water for drinking, domestic, industrial and irrigation purpose. The Master Plan has been circulated to all State Governments for implementation.
- As per Schedule-I of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), the water conservation and water harvesting structures to augment ground water constitute a special focus area for MGNREGA works and about 2/3rd of the expenditure is directly related to construction of water harvesting structures.
- Besides, Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has issued directives to the Chief Secretaries of all States and the Administrators of all UTs to take measures to promote/adopt artificial recharge to ground water / rain water harvesting.
- CGWB has been organizing mass awareness programmes in the Country to promote rain water harvesting and artificial recharge to ground water.
- CGWB has taken up Aquifer Mapping and Management programme during XII Plan, under the scheme of Ground Water Management and Regulation. The Aquifer Mapping is aimed at delineating aquifer disposition and their characterization for preparation of aquifer/area specific ground water management plans. These management plans will be shared with the respective State Governments for taking appropriate measures.

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ANNEXURE

Annexure referred in reply to part a & b of **Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1233** answered on **03.03.2016** regarding **"Decline in Water Level of Wells"**

STATE-WISE DECADAL WATER LEVEL FLUCTUATION WITH MEAN PRE-MONSOON (2005 TO 2014) AND PRE-MONSOON 2015

S.No.	Name of State/UT	Number of Wells Analysed	Wells Showing Rise		Wells Showing Fall	
			No.	%	No.	%
1	Andhra Pradesh	731	264	36	456	62
2	Arunachal Pradesh	12	6	50	6	50
3	Assam	187	83	44	104	56
4	Bihar	477	255	53	217	45
5	Chandigarh	11	3	27	8	73
6	Chhattisgarh	560	322	58	231	41
7	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	11	5	45	6	55
8	Daman & Diu	7	1	14	6	86
9	Delhi	114	42	37	72	63
10	Goa	41	24	59	17	41
11	Gujarat	769	349	45	414	54
12	Haryana	313	128	41	185	59
13	Himachal Pradesh	87	57	66	30	34
14	Jammu & Kashmir	224	195	87	29	13
15	Jharkhand	147	69	47	78	53
16	Karnataka	1369	835	61	511	37
17	Kerala	1151	686	60	461	40
18	Madhya Pradesh	1303	764	59	537	41
19	Maharashtra	1400	729	52	667	48
20	Meghalaya	17	4	24	13	76
21	Odisha	1189	628	53	550	46
22	Puducherry	4	2	50	2	50
23	Punjab	615	171	28	432	70
24	Rajasthan	779	459	59	320	41
25	Tamil Nadu	583	331	57	252	43
26	Telangana	521	146	28	371	71
27	Tripura	28	15	54	13	46
28	Uttar Pradesh	749	375	50	372	50
29	Uttarakhand	37	11	30	26	70
30	West Bengal	885	472	53	413	47
	Total	**14321**	**7431**	**52**	**6799**	**47**

Note: *91(1%) wells do not show any change in water level*

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