

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES,
RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *79
ANSWERED ON 28.04.2016

DEPLETION IN GROUND WATER LEVEL

*79. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY

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

(a) whether the Government is aware of depletion in ground water level in various States including Haryana and Punjab, if so, the State-wise details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the Government is also aware of shortage of water in rivers in various States, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether apart from flood forecast, mapping of flood affected areas is likely to be carried out to deal with the situation, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has allocated/released funds for the purpose, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action plan of the Government to check depletion in river water as well as ground water level?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION
(SUSHRI UMA BHARTI)

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. †*79 TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.04.2016 IN LOK SABHA REGARDING “DEPLETION IN GROUND WATER LEVEL” ASKED BY SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY, HON’BLE M.P, LOK SABHA:

(a) Ground water is continuously being exploited due to growth in population, increased industrialization and irrigation and its use being highly inefficient, has resulted in decline of ground water levels in various parts of the Country. Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) under the Ministry of Water Resources, RD & GR carries out ground water monitoring, four times a year, on regional scale through a network of observation wells in the Country including Haryana and Punjab. Water level data for pre-monsoon 2015 compared with decadal mean of pre-monsoon (2005-2014) indicates decline in ground water level in 47% of the wells monitored. Details are given at **Annexure**.

(b) Central Water Commission (CWC) is monitoring live storage status of 91 reservoirs covering all the regions of the Country on weekly basis. The total live storage capacity of these 91 reservoirs is 157.799 BCM (Billion Cubic Metre). As on 21st April 2016, live storage is 34.082 BCM, which is 22% of total live storage capacity of these reservoirs. This storage is 65% of the storage of corresponding period of last year and 76% of storage of average of last ten years.

(c) A Model Bill on Flood Plain Zoning was circulated to all the States in 1975 for guidance of States for enactment of legislation. The Model Bill provides for flood zoning authorities, surveys and delineation of flood plain area, notification of limits of flood plains, prohibition or restriction of the use of the flood plains, compensation and power to remove obstruction etc. Govt. of Manipur has enacted flood plain zoning legislation in 1978, but the demarcation of flood zones has not been done, as yet. The State of Rajasthan has also enacted legislation. The State Government of Uttarakhand has also passed Flood Plain Zoning Act on 16th December, 2012 but the demarcation of flood zones has not been done, as yet. Some States like Bihar and UP have informed about difficulties in implementation of Bill due to large flood affected plain areas.

(d) No fund has been allocated / released for mapping of flood affected areas.

(e) Following steps have been taken to check depletion of river and ground water :

- CWC has issued an advisory on 12th April, 2016 to the concerned Engineer-in-Chief of State Governments regarding judicious use of available water in view of low storage position of reservoirs in 2016.
- 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.
- During XI Plan, Demonstrative Artificial Recharge Projects were taken up under Central Sector Scheme “Ground Water Management & Regulation”. The scheme on Artificial Recharge project under Ground Water Management & Regulation Scheme has been discontinued during the XII Plan period.
- A conceptual document entitled “Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water in India” has been prepared during the year 2013, which envisages construction of different types of Artificial Recharge and Rainwater Harvesting structures in the Country in an area of 9,41,541 sq.km for harnessing surplus monsoon runoff to augment ground water resources. The Master Plan has been circulated to all State Governments for implementation.
- Ministry of Urban Development in its Draft Model Building Bye-Laws (2015) has incorporated a Chapter on Provision of Rain Water Harvesting.
- Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) constituted under ‘The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986’ for the purpose of regulation and control of ground water development and management has issued advisory to States/ Union Territories and Ministry of Urban Development to take necessary measures for adopting rain water harvesting/ artificial recharge in all the Government buildings. Besides, 30 States/UTs have made rainwater harvesting mandatory by enacting laws / formulating rules & regulations / by including provisions in building bye-laws / through suitable Government Orders etc.
- CGWB has been organizing mass awareness programmes in the Country to promote rain water harvesting and artificial recharge to ground water.

ANNEXURE – I

Annexure referred in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No.79 for 28.04.2016 regarding “Depletion in Ground Water Level”

State-wise Decadal Water Level Fluctuation With Mean of Pre-monsoon(2005 to 2014)] and Pre-monsoon 2015

S. No.	Name of State	No. of wells Analysed	Rise		Fall		Wells showing no change	
			No	%	No	%	No	%
1	Andhra Pradesh	731	264	36	456	62	11	2
2	Arunachal Pradesh	12	6	50	6	50	0	0
3	Assam	187	83	44	104	56	0	0
4	Bihar	477	255	53	217	45	5	1
5	Chandigarh	11	3	27	8	73	0	0
6	Chhattisgarh	560	322	58	231	41	7	1
7	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	11	5	45	6	55	0	0
8	Daman & Diu	7	1	14	6	86	0	0
9	Delhi	114	42	37	72	63	0	0
10	Goa	41	24	59	17	41	0	0
11	Gujarat	769	349	45	414	54	6	1
12	Haryana	313	128	41	185	59	0	0
13	Himachal Pradesh	87	57	66	30	34	0	0
14	Jammu & Kashmir	224	195	87	29	13	0	0
15	Jharkhand	147	69	47	78	53	0	0
16	Karnataka	1369	835	61	511	37	23	2
17	Kerala	1151	686	60	461	40	4	0
18	Madhya Pradesh	1303	764	59	537	41	2	0
19	Maharashtra	1400	729	52	667	48	4	0
20	Meghalaya	17	4	24	13	76	0	0
21	Odisha	1189	628	53	550	46	11	1
22	Pondicherry	4	2	50	2	50	0	0
23	Punjab	615	171	28	432	70	12	2
24	Rajasthan	779	459	59	320	41	0	0
25	Tamil Nadu	583	331	57	252	43	0	0
26	Telangana	521	146	28	371	71	4	1
27	Tripura	28	15	54	13	46	0	0
28	Uttar Pradesh	749	375	50	372	50	2	0
29	Uttarakhand	37	11	30	26	70	0	0
30	West Bengal	885	472	53	413	47	0	0
Total		14321	7431	52	6799	47	91	1.00