

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 833

ANSWERED ON 23.07.2026

JAL SANCHAY JAN BHAGIDARI 2.0 PORTAL

833. Dr. RANI SRIKUMAR:

Shri SELVAM G:

Shri C N ANNADURAI:

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

- (a) whether the Government has extended the timeline for citizen feedback on the Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari (JSJB) 2.0 Portal to enable public participation in evaluating water conservation, rainwater harvesting, groundwater recharge and storage structures and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of water conservation assets created and citizen feedback received from Tamil Nadu under the JSJB 2.0 initiative, district-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has assessed the effectiveness, functionality and sustainability of the water conservation structures created in drought-prone and water-stressed districts of Tamil Nadu and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps proposed to strengthen community participation, improve groundwater recharge, revive traditional water bodies and provide additional financial and technical assistance for water conservation projects in Tamil Nadu under the JSJB initiative?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) Yes, the Ministry of Jal Shakti has extended the timeline for Citizen Feedback on JSJB 2.0 Portal. The citizen feedback initiative, which commenced on 26.01.2026, provides a platform for citizens and stakeholders across the country to share their feedback until 31 July 2026, on water conservation, rainwater harvesting, groundwater recharge and storage work reported under the Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari (JSJB) 2.0 initiative. The portal for sharing the feedback is <https://jsjb.mowr.gov.in/DashboardJsjb.aspx>.

(b) The district-wise progress of artificial groundwater recharge and storage works reported on the portal under JSJB 2.0 initiative is attached at **Annexure**.

As on 20.07.2026, no citizen feedback has been received for the State of Tamil Nadu on the JSJB 2.0 Portal.

(c) Dynamic Ground Water Resources of the country including Tamil Nadu are being assessed every year jointly by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) and the State Government. As per the 2025 assessment,

the Total Annual Ground Water Recharge in the State has been assessed as 22.61 Billion Cubic Meter (BCM) and the Annual Extractable Ground Water Resource as 20.46 BCM. The Total Annual Ground Water Extraction for all uses has been estimated as 15.04 BCM. The Stage of Ground Water Extraction, which is a measure of Annual Ground Water Extraction for all uses (irrigation, industrial and domestic) over the Annual Extractable Ground Water Resource, is 73.50%. Further, the recharge from tanks, ponds and water conservation structures in Tamil Nadu has been assessed as 2.94 BCM during the 2025 assessment, as against 2.70 BCM in the 2024 assessment, indicating an increase of 0.24 BCM. This reflects the positive impact of water conservation and recharge measures implemented in the State.

(d) '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.

Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari (JSJB) initiative was launched in Surat, Gujarat on 6 September 2024. In June 2025, JSJB 2.0 was launched. The implementation cycle for JSJB 2.0 commenced on 1 June 2025 and concluded on 31 May 2026.

Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari: Catch the Rain (JSJB: CTR) – 2026 was launched on 1st June 2026 enhancing the scope of the Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari (JSJB) initiative and simultaneously integrating it with the Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain (JSA: CTR) campaign. The initiative emphasises Jan Bhagidari by involving local communities in the identification, execution and maintenance of water conservation works.

The JSJB initiative focuses on intensifying community action and mobilization to build low-cost rainwater harvesting structures in low cost and saturation mode. The initiative leverages community funds, individual donations, Corporate Social Responsibility Funds and others 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. The objective is to ensure that every drop of water is conserved through collective efforts, following a whole-of-society and whole-of-government approach. By fostering community ownership, the initiative seeks to develop cost-effective, local solutions at the micro level for water conservation and ground water recharge. The JSJB initiative is guided by the 3Cs principle—Community, CSR and Cost, ensuring effective convergence and maximized outcomes. The Government promotes the JSJB initiative in partnership with State Governments and local authorities to ensure its widespread reach and awareness. The initiative aims at forging partnership with stakeholders such as NGOs, Trusts, Civil Societies and educational institutions to engage the broader community effectively. The progress of the campaign is monitored through online portal - JSJB: CTR (<https://jsjb.mowr.gov.in>).

To address the challenges faced by States and local bodies in implementing rainwater harvesting systems, particularly in water-stressed regions, the Government of India has adopted a comprehensive, multi-pronged approach. As part of this strategy, officers from Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) and Central Water Commission (CWC) are deployed to provide technical guidance and verify the water conservation

structures. Further, State Nodal Officers are also appointed by all the states/ UTs to oversee the implementation of the initiative at state level.

Village-level GIS-based feasibility maps have been shared with all districts to support technical planning and facilitate the effective implementation of water conservation and groundwater recharge interventions.

Earlier, the Ministry of Jal Shakti launched the Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA) in 2019 as a time-bound, mission-mode water conservation campaign in 256 water stressed districts of the country. The Hon'ble PM of India launched the campaign in 2021 as Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain (JSA: CTR) with the message, "Catch the Rain: Where It Falls, When It Falls." Since then, JSA: CTR evolved into a national movement, reinforcing India's collective commitment to water security through localised action and institutional convergence. The JSA:CTR campaign was implemented nationwide and each edition had included a targeted focus since 2023 to maximize impact. The JSA: CTR 2023, with the theme "Source Sustainability for Drinking Water," prioritized 150 special focus districts identified by the Jal Jeevan Mission. The JSA: CTR 2024 campaign, themed "Nari Shakti se Jal Shakti," was carried out across the country with a special focus on 151 districts identified by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB). The JSA: CTR 2025 was launched with the theme "Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari: Jan Jagrukta Ki Or" emphasizing deeper grassroots engagement, inter-sectoral convergence and innovative financing mechanisms with 148 special focus on districts identified by CGWB.

Several innovative models of groundwater recharge and water conservation are observed across various regions, showcasing the diversity of locally adapted and community-driven solutions. A few of them are given below.

- i. The "Karmbhoomi se Matribhoomi" Model reflects contributions made by individuals working in Gujarat towards recharge projects in their native states, such as Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Bihar. This voluntary and emotional investment has enabled cross-state support for sustainable groundwater recharge.
- ii. The Gir Ganga Trust model in Gujarat showcases a philanthropic and community-led approach to water conservation. Local communities have actively contributed through both in-kind labour and resources for the creation, operation and maintenance of recharge structures, thereby fostering a strong sense of ownership and long-term sustainability. This model demonstrates how civil society partnerships can play a transformative role in scaling groundwater recharge efforts.
- iii. In Maharashtra, the Jal Tara Model involves farmers systematically constructing standardised recharge pits measuring 4 ft × 4 ft × 6 ft across agricultural land. This low-tech but impactful intervention significantly enhances infiltration and supports the recharge of shallow aquifers, thereby benefiting both crop productivity and groundwater sustainability.
- iv. The 5% Model from Korea district in Chhattisgarh illustrates how terraced recharge pits constructed on 5% of cultivable land can significantly improve local aquifer recharge. This model integrates

water conservation directly into land-use planning and agricultural practices, resulting in improved soil moisture retention and enhanced groundwater levels. On each farmland, a shallow terraced recharge pit is constructed in a "pit within a pit" design, with farmers voluntarily contributing 5% of their cultivable land.

- v. In Banaskantha, Gujarat, a large-scale initiative has focused on the construction of low-cost artificial recharge structures in arid regions. This intervention was made possible by leveraging Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funding and the active participation of farmer cooperatives. The model demonstrates how public-private collaboration can effectively address regional water stress, offering a scalable and replicable solution for water-scarce areas.

Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) play a central role in mobilising communities, facilitating local-level planning and ensuring participatory implementation and monitoring of water conservation works. Women Self Help Groups (SHGs), youth, students and local community groups are actively involved in awareness generation, behaviour change communication and social mobilisation, thereby strengthening grassroots participation and ownership. IEC activities, community meetings and field interactions are undertaken to enhance awareness, technical understanding and participatory implementation at the grassroots level. IEC activities, community meetings and field interactions are undertaken to enhance awareness, technical understanding and participatory implementation at the grassroots level.

The Citizen Feedback mechanism on the JSJB 2.0 Portal seeks to further strengthen Jan Bhagidari by enabling citizens to provide feedback on the reported works. Through their valuable inputs, citizens can help identify maintenance requirements, monitor the functionality of structures, and contribute to improving their long-term effectiveness.

Through this initiative, the Ministry aims to strengthen community ownership of water conservation structures and further advance the nationwide movement towards sustainable water management and water security.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 833 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 23.07.2026 REGARDING “JAL SANCHAY JAN BHAGIDARI 2.0 PORTAL”.

District-wise progress under JSJB 2.0 in Tamil Nadu		
S.No.	District	Completed Works
1.	Ariyalur	2928
2.	Chengalpattu	1323
3.	Coimbatore	30036
4.	Cuddalore	2548
5.	Dharmapuri	4746
6.	Dindigul	5858
7.	Erode	5297
8.	Kallakurichi	996
9.	Kancheepuram	3436
10.	Kanniyakumari	4848
11.	Karur	2723
12.	Krishnagiri	2102
13.	Madurai	1427
14.	Mayiladuthurai	384
15.	Nagapattinam	5149
16.	Namakkal	45864
17.	Perambalur	1653
18.	Pudukkottai	997
19.	Ramanathapuram	1245
20.	Ranipet	727
21.	Salem	19394
22.	Sivaganga	1037
23.	Tenkasi	506
24.	Thanjavur	4515
25.	The Nilgiris	374
26.	Theni	1128
27.	Thiruvallur	4618
28.	Thiruvarur	12164
29.	Thoothukkudi	918
30.	Tiruchirappalli	5031
31.	Tirunelveli	2756
32.	Tirupathur	2792
33.	Tiruppur	1661
34.	Tiruvannamalai	4213
35.	Vellore	13018
36.	Viluppuram	2513
37.	Virudhunagar	4659
Total		205584
