

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1157**

ANSWERED ON 27.07.2023

**SCHEME FOR RAINWATER HARVESTING**

†1157.      SHRI ARUN SAO                                      SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA  
                SHRI VIJAY BAGHEL                                SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL  
                SHRI DILIP SAIKIA                                 SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH  
                SHRI MOHAN MANDAVI                            SHRI RANJEETSINGH NAIK NIMBALKAR  
                SHRI SUDHAKAR TUKARAM SHRANGARE  
                SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SONI

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to formulate any scheme for rainwater harvesting in order to help ground water recharge in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the measures being taken in this regard, State/UT-wise particularly in Gujarat, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Maharashtra and North-Eastern States;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has taken any initiatives for construction of recharge pits in order to recharge the ground water and prevent water logging in the aforesaid States;
- (e) if so, the details thereof, district-wise; and
- (f) the other steps that are being taken by the Government for rainwater harvesting?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI**

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

**(a) to (e)** Water is a State subject and the Central Government supplements the efforts of the States through technical and financial support. The respective State Governments / Union Territories implement rainwater harvesting practices and takes up construction of recharge pits varying from region to region depending upon the climatic conditions, soil-strata, hydrogeological terrain and other localized factors.

The Government of India has been implementing schemes and programmes/ policies in the country including in the States of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Maharashtra and North-Eastern States for rainwater harvesting and to help ground water recharge. Major initiatives in this regard include “Jal

Shakti Abhiyan - Catch the Rain” (JSA:CTR) Campaign; Atal Bhujal Yojana (Atal Jal); Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS); Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY); Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transforming (AMRUT); Unified Building Bye Laws (UBBL); Model Building Bye Laws (MBBL), 2016; Urban and Regional Development Plan Formulation & Implementation (URDPFI) Guidelines, 2014 etc.

Under Ground Water Management & Regulation Scheme, Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has been involved in the implementation of several successful artificial recharge projects in the country for demonstrative purpose which enables the State Governments to replicate the same in suitable hydrogeological conditions. CGWB has been involved in the implementation of several successful artificial recharge projects as demonstrative projects in the country including recharge pits to recharge the ground water and prevent water logging. District-wise information regarding construction of recharge pits is not available.

**(f)** Other steps for rainwater harvesting include advisories / directives issued by Government of India from time to time; Organizing National Water Awards; holding meeting/conferences; Organizing Water Talks & Webinars with District Magistrates/District Collectors: involvement of NGOs, Urban and Rural Local Bodies, Community Participation etc.

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