

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1735

ANSWERED ON 01.08.2024

INCENTIVES FOR WATER CONSERVATION

1735. SHRI S JAGATHRATCHAKAN

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

- (a) whether the Government concurs with the view that incentives for adopting practices, underpinned by digital platforms can drive behavioral changes among industries, agriculture and domestic users making water conservation rewarding and trackable;
- (b) if so, the details of the initiatives proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) to (c) Water is a State subject and initiatives for augmentation, conservation and efficient management of water resources are primarily undertaken by the respective State Governments. In order to supplement efforts of the State Governments, Central Government provides technical and financial assistance to them through various schemes and programmes.

Various practices adopted for water conservation, such as awareness building, measuring water use, etc., can promote judicious use of water.

The practice of installing water meters in industries and levying of water charges and penalties for over extraction of ground water by the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA), leads to positive changes in the behavior of project proponents for water conservation.

Under the National Hydrology Project, various implementing agencies including dam operators and irrigation service providers are encouraged to monitor water utilization through installation of Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) systems and flow metering devices leading to water positive behaviors. Similarly, the Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) mandate for highly polluting industries by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) leads to promotion of water conservation through reuse of recycled and treated water.

Government of India, through its programmes, encourages states to strengthen their operation and maintenance systems for domestic water supply in order to minimize leakage.
