

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI
DEPARTMENT OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 648
ANSWERED ON – 25/07/2024

WATER STRESS

648. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR PANIGRAHY:

DR. ALOK KUMAR SUMAN:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken and schemes introduced by the Government to increase rainwater harvesting and manage water stress in the country;
- (b) the status of the Jal Jeevan Mission including the number of households covered with tap water in rural areas and the funds released by the Union Government;
- (c) the details of funds allocated under the Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen (SBM- G) during the last three years and the number of Individual Household Latrines constructed;
- (d) the details of Open Defecation Free (ODF) Plus villages, district-wise; and
- (e) the present status, steps taken, projects undertaken, funds approved and released for the Namami Gange Programme along with the steps taken for biodiversity conservation for the rejuvenation of the Ganga River?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI
(SHRI. V. SOMANNA)

(a) Water is a State subject and the Central Government supplements the efforts of the States/UTs through technical and financial support. Water conservation through rainwater harvesting is one of the foremost priorities of the Government. Major steps taken by the Government for water conservation and rainwater harvesting to reduce water stress and address water scarcity in the country are as follows:

- i. Government of India has been implementing a scheme namely Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) which inter-alia includes water conservation and water harvesting structures.
- ii. Financial assistance is given to various States under 15th Finance Commission tied grants which can be inter-alia utilized for rainwater harvesting.

iii. The Ministry of Jal Shakti has been implementing Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA) since 2019 on an annual basis. In the current year, Ministry of Jal Shakti is implementing Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain (JSA: CTR) 2024, 5th in the series of JSAs, in all the districts (rural as well as urban) of the country. JSA: CTR is a convergence of various Central Government schemes and funds like MGNREGS, Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), Per Drop More Crop, Repair, Renovation and Restoration Components under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY), Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA), Finance Commission grants, State Government schemes, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds etc. One of the major interventions undertaken under the campaign includes constructions and repair or rainwater harvesting structures including rooftop and water harvesting structures.

iv. Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) 2.0 has provisions for harvesting the rainwater through storm water drains into water body (which is not receiving sewage/effluent). Through preparation of 'Aquifer Management Plan' cities targets to strategize groundwater recharge augmentation by developing a roadmap for improving rain water harvesting within city limits. Through IEC campaign, awareness is created about practices for water conservation like rainwater harvesting.

v. Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs has formulated guidelines for the States to adopt measures suitable to local conditions, such as Unified Building Bye Laws (UBBL) of Delhi, 2016, Model Building Bye Laws (MBBL), 2016 and Urban and Regional Development Plan Formulation and Implementation (URDPFI) Guidelines, 2014 with adequate focus on requirement of rainwater harvesting and water conservation measures.

vi. Government of India is implementing Atal Bhujal Yojana, in 8,213 water stressed Gram Panchayats (GPs) in 80 districts of 7 States, viz., Haryana, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh for a period of 5 years from 01.04.2020. The scheme marks a paradigm shift from groundwater development to groundwater management.

vii. Government of India has been implementing "Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY)" with an aim to enhance physical access of water on farm and expand cultivable area under assured irrigation, improve on farm water use efficiency, introduce sustainable water conservation practices etc. PMKSY has three components/ schemes namely Har Khet Ko Pani (HKKP), Repair, Renovation & Restoration (RRR) Scheme of Water Bodies and Surface Minor irrigation (SMI) Scheme.

viii. The Ministry of Jal Shakti has set up the Bureau of Water Use Efficiency (BWUE) under the National Water Mission on 20.10.2022, to act as a facilitator for promotion of improving water use efficiency across various sectors namely irrigation, drinking water supply, power generation, industries, etc. in the country.

ix. Mission Amrit Sarovar was implemented in the recent times with provisions for creation/rejuvenation of at least 75 Amrit Sarovars in every district of the country with the purpose to harvest and conserve water.

x. Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has completed the National Aquifer Mapping (NAQUIM) Project in the entire mappable area of about 25 lakh sq. km. which has been shared with the respective State agencies for implementation. The management plans include various water conservation measures through recharge structures.

xi. CGWB has also prepared a Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Groundwater- 2020 in consultation with States/UTs which is a macro level plan indicating various structures for the different terrain conditions of the country including estimated cost. The Master Plan has provisions for construction of about 1.42 crore Rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge structures in the country to harness 185 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) of monsoon rainfall.

xii. CGWB, under Ground Water Management & Regulation Scheme, has also implemented several successful artificial recharge projects in the country for demonstrative purpose which enables the State Governments to replicate the same in suitable hydro-geological conditions.

xiii. National Water Policy (2012) has been formulated by Department of Water Resources, RD & GR, which inter-alia advocates rainwater harvesting and conservation of water and also highlights the need for augmenting the availability of water through direct use of rainfall.

xiv. Department of Land Resources (DoLR) implements Watershed Development Component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (WDC-PMKSY) for the development of rainfed and degraded lands in the country. The activities undertaken, inter-alia, include ridge area treatment, drainage line treatment, soil and moisture conservation, rainwater harvesting, nursery raising, pasture development, livelihoods for asset-less persons etc. WDC-PMKSY, through these interventions, seeks to ensure sustainable development through improved natural resource management and better resilience of farmers to climate change.

xv. The activity of installing rainwater harvesting structures at the Gram Panchayat level has been included in the Panchayat Development Plan (PDP) for Panchayats to opt for the same as per their needs for execution from XV Finance Commission (FC) funds or any other available funds with them. Further, Revamped scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) also provides support to States/UTs for Capacity Building and training of Elected Representatives (ERs) of Panchayats, Officials and other stakeholders of the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs).

(b) To enable every rural household in the country, to have assured potable water, in adequate quantity of prescribed quality on regular and long-term basis, through tap water connection, since August 2019, Government of India in partnership with States, is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) - Har Ghar Jal. As on date, the number of households covered with tap water in rural areas under the Jal Jeevan Mission is 15,00,27,135. The link of details is as: <https://ejalshakti.gov.in/jjmreport/JJMIndia.aspx> . Details of Central fund allocated, and fund drawn by the States/ UTs under Jal Jeevan Mission till date is as under:

Year	Fund allocated to States (in Rs. Crore)	Fund drawn by States (in Rs. Crore)
2019-20	11,139.21	9,951.81
2020-21	23,033.02	10,917.86
2021-22	92,308.77	40,009.77
2022-23	1,00,789.77	54,742.30
2023-24	1,32,936.83	69,885.01
2024-25*	69,926.68	12,592.17

*As on 23.07.2024

(c) Funds allocated and No. of Individual Household Latrines constructed during the last three years under the Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen (SBMG) are as under: -

Year	Allocation (Rs. in crore)	IHHLs constructed
2021-22	6000.00	22,41,460
2022-23	5000.00	27,30,416
2023-24	7000.00	38,99,215

(d) District-wise, No. of Open Defecation Free (ODF) Plus villages is available at <https://sbm.gov.in/SBMGdashboard/Districtdashboard.aspx> .

(e) The Government of India (GoI) launched the Namami Gange Programme (NGP) in 2014-15 with a budgetary outlay of Rs.20,000 crore, for five years, up to March 2021 and has been further extended to March 2026 with a budgetary outlay of Rs.22,500 crore and a total sum of Rs.16,737.02 crore have been released by the Government of India to the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), from Financial Year (FY) 2014-15 till 31 March 2024. Under Namami Gange Programme, a diverse set of interventions for cleaning and rejuvenation of river Ganga have been taken up including wastewater treatment, solid waste management, river front management (ghats and crematoria), ensuring e flow (environmental flow), rural sanitation, afforestation, biodiversity conservation and public participation etc. As on June 2024, a total of 467 projects have been taken up at an estimated cost of ₹ 39,080.70 Crore, out of which 292 projects have been completed and made operational. Out of 467 total projects, 200 sewerage infrastructure projects have been taken up with a cost of Rs. 32,070.84 crore for creation & rehabilitation of 6,217.15 million litres per day (MLD) of sewage treatment plant (STP) capacity and laying of around 5,282.39 km sewerage network. Among these, 120 sewerage projects have been completed resulting in the creation & rehabilitation of 3,241.55 MLD of STP capacity and the laying of 4,527.48 km sewerage network.

In order to treat the river comprehensively and to conserve aquatic biodiversity following interventions have been taken up:

- (i) NMCG has established partnerships with various scientific research institute like Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute (CIFRI), Wildlife Institute of India (WII) etc. to restore the viable populations of all endemic and endangered biodiversity of the river so that they occupy their full historical range and fulfil their role in maintaining the integrity of the Ganga River ecosystems.
- (ii) A total of 17 projects has been sanctioned to the partner organisations for the conservation of aquatic biodiversity.
- (iii) Six rescue and rehabilitation centres established in association with the state forest department.
- (iv) For long term sustainability of the conservation efforts a cadre of around 5,000 trained volunteers, the Ganga Prahari, from the local communities has been created.
- (v) Monitoring the river biodiversity along the main stem Ganga River and its tributaries taken up for mapping the population & distribution of the indicator species.
- (vi) Initiatives for inventorization fish species, their conservation and improvement of fish stock for select fish species along with improvement in livelihood for fishers has been taken up.
- (vii) Mapping of riparian floral and faunal diversity along the bank of River Ganga.

Further, Phase-II of SBM (G) has been launched with effect from 1st April 2020, with the focus on ODF sustainability and SLWM in villages i.e. to convert the villages from ODF to ODF Plus(Model) by 2024-25. Out of total 3,786 villages on bank of Ganges, **3,681** villages have been declared Open Defecation Free (ODF) Plus (Aspiring*-**1,321**, Rising**-**176** and Model***-**2,184**) upto 22.7.2024.

* The village which is sustaining its ODF status and has arrangements for Solid Waste Management or Liquid Waste Management.

** The village, which is sustaining its ODF status, and has arrangements for both Solid Waste Management and Liquid Waste Management.

*** The village which is sustaining its ODF status; has arrangements for both Solid Waste Management and Liquid Waste Management; observes visual cleanliness i.e. minimal litter, minimal stagnant wastewater and no plastic waste dump in public places. Displays ODF Plus IEC messages.
