

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2918
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2003
HARVESTING OF RAIN WATER
JAGMEET SINGH BRAR

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether most of the States/UTs have experienced good rainfalls during the current monsoon;
- (b) if so, whether the Government have formulated any scheme to harvest rain water for future needs; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) Yes, Sir. Most of the States / Union Territories have so far experienced good rainfall during the current monsoon.

(b) & (c) Water being a State subject, all water resources projects including schemes to harvest rain water for future needs are planned, investigated, funded and implemented by the respective State Governments. Government of India is promoting rain water harvesting through Watershed Management Programme, artificial recharge of ground water and roof-top rain water harvesting under the sector reform project of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme under the Ministry of Rural Development, for which technical and financial assistance is provided to the State Governments and other implementing agencies. Central Ground Water Board has also taken up a Central Sector Scheme on "Studies of Recharge to Ground Water" on pilot basis. Central Ground Water Board has prepared a "Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water" which envisages to recharge 36453 Million Cubic Metre volume of water through 2.25 lakhs artificial recharge structures in rural areas like percolation tanks, check dams, sub- surface dykes, gully plugs, gabion structures, nala bunds, contour bunds, recharge shafts etc. As a long term measure, National Water Development Agency have formulated National Perspective Plan for water resources development which envisages interlinking various Peninsular rivers and Himalayan rivers for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins, wherever feasible as per consensus between donor-donee states.