

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:162

ANSWERED ON:05.12.2005

RAIN WATER HARVESTING

Nayak Smt. Archana;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has prepared any action plan for rain water harvesting in view of the receding ground water level in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether any instructions/guidelines have been issued to the State Governments in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the financial assistance provided to the State Governments during the last three years and proposed to be provided in the near future for implementation of the said action plan?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR HEAVY INDUSTRIES, PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY OF PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.162 FOR REPLY ON 05.12.2005 REGARDING RAIN WATER HARVESTING

"Water" being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to formulate action plan for rain water harvesting and for augmentation of water resources. The Ministry of Water Resources has not prepared any action plan for rain water harvesting. However, the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), a subordinate office of the Ministry of Water Resources, has prepared a report, which envisages recharge of 36453 Million Cubic Meter volume of surplus monsoon runoff, through construction of 39.25 lakhs artificial recharge and roof top rain water harvesting structures in the identified areas of 4.5 lakh sq.km. The report outlines broad framework about feasibility of these recharge structures in various parts of the country. During the IX Plan (1996-2004), CGWB has implemented a Central Sector Scheme on "Study of Recharge to Ground Water" and taken up 165 demonstrative projects on rain water harvesting and artificial recharge in 27 States/UTs. The detail of funds released to various States/UTs under the scheme and released during 2002-03 & 2003-04 is given at Annexure.

Ministry of Agriculture has implemented the National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPPRA) whose impact evaluations have shown that watershed based interventions have led to increase in ground water recharge.

Soil and water conservation works are also included under various activities of area development programmes, being undertaken by Department of Land Resources. However, funds under the above programme are not exclusively allotted for checking declining ground water, which is a resultant activity of moisture conservation works undertaken for the development of watershed areas.

Besides, Union Ministry of Water Resources has circulated a Model Bill to all the States/Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development. Manual/Guidelines on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water have also been circulated to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend of ground water levels.

The Union Government has also taken following steps to check the decline in ground water level in the country:-

(i) Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) constituted under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 has notified 11 critical areas on consideration of over-exploitation of ground water resources and 32 over-exploited areas for registration of ground water structures.

(ii) CGWA is regulating withdrawal of ground water by industries/projects. List of these critical areas has been circulated to the State Pollution Control Boards and the Ministry of Environment & Forests which refer the new industries/projects to CGWA for obtaining permission.

(iii) Organisation of mass awareness programmes and training courses on rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge of ground

water.

(iv) The Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation, Government of India have amended Building Bye- laws, 1983, making provision for water harvesting through storing of water run-off including rain water in all new buildings on plots of 100 square meters and above in Delhi mandatory. Similarly, State Governments of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Rajasthan and Kerala have made roof top rain water harvesting mandatory in specified cases.

ANNEXURE

(REFERENCE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 162 DATED 05.12.2005)

DETAILS OF FUNDS RELEASED TO VARIOUS STATES/UTS UNDER CGWB'S CENTRAL SECTOR SCHEME ON "STUDY OF RECHARGE TO GROUND WATER"

(Rs. in Lakh)					
Sl. No.	State/UT	Funds released during 2002-03	Funds released during 2003-04	Funds released during 1998-2004	Total funds released
1.	Andhra Pradesh		0.00	0.00	52.25
2.	Arunachal Pradesh		0.00		0.00
3.	Assam		33.50		0.00
4.	Bihar		0.00		0.00
5.	Chandigarh		0.00		3.74
6.	Delhi		0.00		8.61
7.	Gujarat		0.00		0.00
8.	Haryana		36.41		0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh		0.00		0.00
10.	Jammu& Kashmir		0.00	0.00	
11.	Jharkhand		0.00		5.03
12.	Karnataka		14.55		0.00
13.	Kerala		13.11		0.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh		0.00		0.00
15.	Maharashtra		0.00		0.00
16.	Meghalaya		0.00		1.65
17.	Mizoram		0.00		0.00
18.	Nagaland		25.47		5.96
19.	Orissa		474.41		187.85
20.	Punjab		88.98		0.00
21.	Rajasthan		30.52		0.00
22.	Tamil Nadu		15.20		2.55
23.	Uttar Pradesh		27.34		31.64
24.	Uttaranchal		0.00		0.00
25.	West Bengal		0.00		0.42
26.	Andaman& Nicobar		0.00	4.53	
27.	Lakshadweep		11.85		0.00
	Total		771.34	251.98	3331.03