

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:484

ANSWERED ON:28.04.2008

RAIN WATER HARVESTING

Sai Shri Nand Kumar;Singh Shri Sugrib

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the rain water harvesting projects have helped in recharging the declining ground water level in the various States over a period of time;
- (b) if so, the details of data collected from various ongoing projects during 2006-07 and 2007-08 so far, State-wise; and
- (c) the manner in which the Government proposes to protect the rain water from going waste?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY OF PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.484 FOR REPLY ON 28.04.2008 REGARDING RAIN WATER HARVESTING.

The studies conducted by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) under its demonstrative scheme of Artificial Recharge to Ground Water as also the measurements carried out during the period 2006-08 revealed that recharge to ground water in one year through various types of recharge structures such as percolation tanks, check dams, sub-surface dykes, recharge shafts/wells and roof top rain water harvesting systems was in the range of 196 cubic meters to 34.50 lakh cubic meters with consequent rise in the water table in some areas in the range of 0.25 to 12 meters.

Government has taken following steps to promote rain water harvesting and ground water recharge:-

- (i) Preparation and circulation of Manual and Guide on Artificial Recharge to Ground Water to States/Union Territories.
- (ii) Preparation and circulation of Master Plan on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water to various States/Union Territories.
- (iii) Implementation of demonstrative schemes of artificial recharge of ground water by Central Ground Water Board during VIII, IX & X Plans.
- (iv) Scheme of Artificial Recharge to Ground Water through Dugwells in seven States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh.
- (v) Government has advised the States/Union Territories to undertake promotion of roof top rain water harvesting in all Government buildings.
- (vi) Government has circulated Model Bill to States/Union Territories for enactment of ground water legislation, which in turn has mandatory provision for roof top rain water harvesting.
- (vii) The Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) constituted under Section of 3(3) of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 has advised States to take necessary measures to include roof top rain water harvesting in their building bye-laws and to also promote conservation of ground water in such areas.
- (viii) The CGWA has issued directions under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to Group Housing Societies, Institutes/Schools, Hotels, Industrial Establishments/Farm Houses in its notified areas in NCT Delhi, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh to adopt roof top rain water harvesting.

(ix) Conducting of country-wide mass awareness and training programmes for rain water harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water.

(x) Constitution of Artificial Recharge of Ground Water Advisory Council to popularize the concept of artificial recharge among all stakeholders.

(xi) Institution of National Water Award and Bhoomijal Samvardhan Puraskars to encourage NGOs/Panchayats/Urban Local Bodies for adopting innovative practices of ground water augmentation by rain water harvesting and artificial recharge through people's participation.

(xii) Implementation of scheme for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies.