

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:44  
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2012  
RAIN WATER HARVESTING  
Tandon Annu;Vijayan Shri A.K.S.

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

- (a) the percentage of rain water harvested, annually, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government is considering any special schemes and measures to promote awareness amongst users to promote rain water harvesting;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government is considering to set up a special fund for the infrastructure development of rain water harvesting and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps proposed to be taken for protecting fast depleting ground water table in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. 44 TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.03.2012 IN LOK SABHA REGARDING "RAINWATER HARVESTING" ASKED BY SHRI A.K.S. VIJAYAN AND SMT. ANNU TANDON.

(a). Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) under the Ministry of Water Resources does not maintain State-wise percentage of rainwater harvested annually. The State-wise details of ground water recharge as per the latest assessment carried out jointly by the State Ground Water Organizations and CGWB are given in Annexure – I.

(b) & (c) Central Ground Water Board undertakes the following activities under the Information, Education and Communication (IEC) scheme of Ministry of Water Resources to create awareness and promote rain water harvesting.

# Mass awareness programmes on Rain Water Harvesting & Water Conservation

# Mass awareness programmes in Tribal Areas on Rain Water Harvesting & Water Conservation

# Water Management Training Programmes

# Painting Competition on water conservation for School Children of IV,V,VI Classes on School, State & National Level

# Distribution of pamphlets and brochures, participation in exhibition, fairs etc.

Besides this, Ministry of Water Resources and Central Ground Water Board has undertaken demonstrative projects at an outlay of Rs.100 Crores during the 11th Plan period which include rainwater harvesting under the Central Sector Scheme of Ground Water Management and Regulation.

Further, Government has constituted the Advisory Council on Artificial Recharge to Ground Water in the year 2006 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources with the main objective of popularizing the concept of artificial recharge among stakeholders as well as water managers.

(d) There is no proposal at present for setting up a special fund for infrastructure development for rainwater harvesting.

(e) 'Water' being a State subject, necessary measures to check declining ground water levels are to be undertaken by the concerned State agencies. However, Central Ground Water Authority and the Central Ground Water Board undertake the following measures for promoting rain water harvesting and artificial recharge in the country.

# CGWB has prepared a Manual on artificial recharge to ground water which provides guidelines on techniques for selection of sites, planning & design of artificial recharge structures. The manual has been circulated to user agencies including State Governments.

# Circulation of 'Model Bill' to enable States/Union Territories to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development, which provides for making roof top rain water harvesting mandatory. So far 11 States/Union Territories namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Chandigarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Lakshadweep and Puducherry have enacted ground water legislation.

# States have been advised for making rainwater harvesting mandatory. In pursuance thereof, 18 States and 4 UTs have made rain water harvesting mandatory under building bye-laws.

# Directions have been issued by the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) to Chief Secretaries in 12 States and Administrators in 2 Union Territories having Over-exploited blocks to take all necessary measures to promote/ adopt artificial recharge to ground water/ rain water harvesting.

# Directions have been issued to Chief Secretaries/ Administrators of all the States/ Union Territories and Ministry of Urban Development to take necessary action to adopt rain water harvesting/ artificial recharge on all the Government buildings.

# Directions have been issued to through States & Departments to the Residential Group Housing Societies/ Institutions/Schools/ Hotels/ Industrial Establishments falling in the over-exploited and critical areas (except in the water logged areas) in the country to adopt Roof Top Rain Water harvesting systems in their premises.

# Directions have been issued to concerned authorities for implementation of ground water recharge measures along all National Highways, State Highways and other major roads by CRRI, National Highways Authority of India, CPWD, State PWDs; along rail tracks by Indian Railways; in the Stadia by Sports Authority of India, BCCI, Departments of sports and Youth Affairs and in the Airports by Airport Authority of India, Ministry of Civil Aviation for Promoting Rain Water Harvesting/ adoption of artificial Recharge to Ground Water in the country (except in the water logged areas).

# Central Ground Water Authority has notified 82 areas in the country for regulation of ground water development and management. In these notified areas, installation of new ground water abstraction structures is not permitted without prior specific approval of the Authority/ Authorized officer.