

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1046

ANSWERED ON:29.11.2012

RAINWATER HARVESTING

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Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any incentives are proposed to encourage people to go for water harvesting;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken thereon;
- (c) whether the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has developed any mechanism/technique to find out the availability of ground water; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b) Some of the State Governments like Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Goa, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Maharashtra and West Bengal have provided incentives such as rebate in property tax, financial assistance / subsidies with a view to encouraging adoption of rainwater harvesting, details of which are given in Annexure.

Ministry of Water Resources has also instituted five National Water Awards and two National Water Excellence Awards to encourage Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) / Gram Panchayats/ Urban Local Bodies/ Institutions/ Corporate Sector and Individuals for adopting innovative practices of ground water augmentation including rainwater harvesting.

(c) & (d) Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) explores the availability of ground water through scientific techniques like hydrogeological surveys, remote sensing, geophysical techniques, exploratory drilling. Besides, CGWB estimates available ground water resources in association with the State Governments as per the methodology recommended by the Ground Water Estimation Committee (GEC'97). CGWB has also taken up National Project on Aquifer Mapping and Management (NAQUIM), during the XIth Plan for mapping the aquifers of the country in a phased manner to identify and manage the ground water.