

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:892
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2013
AVAILABILITY AND UTILISATION OF GROUNDWATER
Mahajan Smt. Sumitra

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the percentage of average availability and utilisation of ground water in the country as well as in every State;
- (b) whether various State Governments including the Government of Madhya Pradesh have taken steps to augment the ground water level where there is shortage of ground water; and
- (c) if so, the State-wise details of the works done by the Government in this regard during the current year 2013-14 till date?

Answer

THE MINISTER FOR WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) Central Ground Water Board under the Ministry of Water Resources carries out periodic assessment of replenishable ground water resources jointly with the respective State Ground Water Departments. As per the latest assessment (2009), the total annual replenishable ground water resources of the Country is about 431 Billion Cubic Metres (BCM) and annual utilizable ground water resources is about 396 BCM. Out of 396 BCM annual utilizable ground water resources, about 243 BCM is utilized through ground water withdrawal for various purposes. The stage of ground water development in the Country is 61%. State-wise details are given in Annexure -I.

(b) State Governments take measures for augmentation, conservation and efficient management of water resources. These efforts are supplemented by the Central Government by way of technical and financial support through various schemes such as Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme; Command Area Development and Water Management; Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies for conservation of water resources in the Country. As per the information received from Government of Madhya Pradesh(MP), the steps taken include:

- (i) Construction of Minor Irrigation Tanks/ Percolation Tanks/ Balram Talab scheme by Agriculture Department for storage and rain water harvesting.
- (ii) Implementation of ground water conservation work under Rajiv Gandhi Watershed Mission, Jal Abhishek and other programmes through Panchayat and Rural Development Departments.
- (iii) Implementation of artificial ground water recharge projects funded under Central Sector Scheme of Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India.
- (iv) Public Health Engineering Department, Government of MP is implementing "Ensuring Drinking Water Security in Rural India" as envisaged by the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation under Strategic Plan 2011-12. Ground water recharge is also promoted.
- (v) Under Integrated Watershed Management Programme, training is imparted to different stake holders at village level which also include women in the villages sanctioned under watershed management programme.

(c) Demonstrative Artificial Recharge Projects were taken up under Central Sector Scheme of "Ground Water Management & Regulation" during XI Plan period in priority areas viz. 'Over-exploited' and 'Critical' assessment units, urban areas showing steep decline in ground water levels etc. As spill over work of XI Plan, during 2013-14, as on 31.07.2013, a total of 98 artificial recharge structures have been constructed and `291.35 lakh has been released to implementing agencies for projects sanctioned during XI Plan period. The State-wise details are given in Annexure-II. Besides, Government of India has declared year 2013 as 'Water Conservation Year' in which several awareness activities like workshops, training programmes, publicity in print and electronic media, talk shows are being organised. Besides, as per information provided by Government of Madhya Pradesh, 299 Check Dams, 292 Recharge Shafts, 124 Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting Structures, 122 rejuvenation of dugwells and 693 other ground water recharge structures have been constructed so far during the year 2013-14.