

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:499  
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2015  
RAINWATER HARVESTING  
Sreeramulu Shri B.

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) the details of the rainwater harvesting programmes being implemented in the country;
- (b) whether the Government is aware that the said programmes are not given due emphasis in implementation;
- (c) if so, the response of the Government in this regard; and
- (d) the details along with the measures to ensure effective implementation of rainwater harvesting programmes in the country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION  
(PROF.SANWAR LAL JAT)

(a) to (c) Water being a State subject, necessary measures are being undertaken by the State Governments for rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge to ground water. Government of India is, however, giving due emphasis in promoting rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge measures by supplementing the efforts of State Governments through technical and financial support under various schemes.

Ministry of Rural Development has informed that under MGNREGA about 2/3rd of the expenditure is directly related to construction of water harvesting structures.

Further, as per the information available from Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, a total of Rs.1492639.82 lakhs have been incurred for construction of 185104 lakh water conservation/ recharge structures.

Central Ground Water Board(CGWB), under Ministry of Water Resources, RD & GR has undertaken the Demonstrative Rain Water Harvesting and Artificial Recharge Projects during XI Plan under the Scheme of "Ground Water Management & Regulation" in priority areas. The project aimed at facilitating State Governments for replicating recharge projects in similar hydrogeological environment. During XI Plan, 133 Demonstrative Rain Water Harvesting and Artificial Recharge Projects were sanctioned for construction of 1661 rain water harvesting and recharge structures in 22 States. Further, CGWB has prepared a conceptual document entitled "Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water in India" during the year 2013, which envisages construction of different types of Artificial Recharge and Rainwater Harvesting structures in the Country in an area of 9,41,541 sq.km by harnessing surplus monsoon runoff to augment ground water resources. The Master Plan has been circulated to all State Governments for implementation.

(d) Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has issued advisory to States/ Union Territories and Ministry of Urban Development to take necessary measures for adopting rain water harvesting/ artificial recharge in all the Government buildings. Besides, 31 States/UTs have made rainwater harvesting mandatory by enacting laws / formulating rules & regulations / by including provisions in building bye-laws / through suitable Government Orders etc.