

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:355  
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2017  
Aquifer Mapping  
Patil Shri Shivaji Adhalrao

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

- (a) whether a high level committee has been constituted under the chairmanship of a former Planning Commission member to undertake a study to carry forward the Gujarat model of irrigation reform in the country and to quickly complete the task of aquifer mapping to quantify available groundwater resources and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the said committee has completed the study and submitted its report to the Government and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of recommendations on which the Government has completed examination and finalised action; and
- (d) whether some States have started emulating this model and if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION  
(SUSHRI UMA BHARTI)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. \*355 TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.08.2017 IN LOK SABHA REGARDING "AQUIFER MAPPING" ASKED BY SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO :

(a) to (d) The Government has constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of former member, Planning Commission in September 2015 to undertake a detailed study and make suitable recommendations on restructuring of Central Water Commission (CWC) and Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) for optimal development of water resources. The broad ToRs of the Committee, inter-alia, included carrying forward irrigation reforms in Gujarat and built partnership for completing the task of aquifer mapping and management.

The committee has submitted its report in July, 2016, which is under consideration of the Government. However, with an overall objective of proper assessment and management to ensure sustainability of ground water resources, Central Ground Water Board has already undertaken the National Aquifer Mapping and Management (NAQUIM) programme and has so far covered an area of 6,31,418 sq km in the Country.

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