

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:795
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2014
STORAGE OF RAIN WATER
Singh Shri Bhola

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

- (a) the steps taken by the Government and guidelines laid down to maximize hygiene, ensure cleanliness and make drinking water available in flood-ravaged areas, especially in areas like North Bihar;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to introduce a scheme with regard to storage of rain water; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken thereon including enhancement in budgetary allocation?

Answer

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

(a) Sanitation and water supply being State subjects, the related projects are formulated by concerned States as per requirement and priorities. The Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation provides financial support to States under the National Rural Drinking Water Program (NRDWP). Under this Programme, central assistance of Rs. 51466.11 crore has been released from the year 2009-10 till date to various States / UTs. This includes central assistance of Rs. 1437.47 crore to the Government of Bihar.

Besides, State Disaster Management Authorities (SDMAs) have been set up in each State for undertaking necessary relief measures for hygiene and cleanliness as well as to ensure provision of safe drinking water to the people in flood affected areas including North Bihar. The Ministry of Home Affairs provides central assistance to the States under National Disaster Relief Fund (NDRF) during any flood related disaster.

(b)&(c) Water being State subject, the schemes for storage and conservation of rain water are formulated by the concerned State. However, to supplement the efforts of State, Government of India is providing central assistance through the Plan Scheme namely, "Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies" whose objectives include storage of rainwater. Under this scheme, the central assistance of Rs. 1044.56 crore has so far been released to various States since X Plan and 3018 water bodies have been restored. 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 square km by harnessing surplus monsoon runoff to augment ground water resources. The Master Plan has been circulated to all State Governments for implementation. Besides, 31 States/UTs have made rainwater harvesting mandatory by enacting laws / formulating rules and regulations / by including provisions in building bye-laws / through suitable Government orders.

In addition, Ministry of Rural Development had taken up 2009951 works pertaining to water conservation and water harvesting under MGNREGA during the financial year 2013-14, out of which 118438 have been completed.