

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. †*262
ANSWERED ON 11.07.2019

SHORTAGE OF WATER

†*262. SHRI SHANKAR LALWANI:

SHRI P. RAVEENDRANATH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the water level has decreased considerably in various States during the past few years and if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (b) the details of efforts made by the Government to maintain the water supply;
- (c) whether any special steps are proposed to be taken to meet the shortage of water at present and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has constituted/developed any mechanism to identify the areas in which groundwater is depleting at alarming level; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the corrective measures/steps taken/to be taken by the Government to check depletion of groundwater level as well as develop recharging system for groundwater level across the country?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. †*262 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 11.07.2019 REGARDING “SHORTAGE OF WATER” RAISED BY S/SHRI SHANKAR LALWANI and P. RAVEENDRANATH KUMAR, M.Ps

(a) to (e) Ground water levels in various parts of the Country are declining because of continuous withdrawal due to reasons such as increased demand of fresh water for various uses, vagaries of rainfall, increased population, industrialization & urbanization etc.

Central Ground Water Board is periodically monitoring the ground water levels throughout the Country on a regional scale, through a network of monitoring wells. In order to assess the decline in water level on a long-term basis, Pre-monsoon water level data collected by CGWB during Pre-monsoon 2019 has been compared with the decadal average (2009-2018). Analysis of water level data (**Annexure**) indicates that about 61% of the wells monitored have registered decline in ground water levels.

The Dynamic Ground Water Resources of the country are being periodically assessed jointly by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) and State Governments. As per the 2017 assessment, out of the total 6881 assessment units (Block/ Taluks/ Mandals/ watersheds/ Firkas) in the Country, 1186 units in 17 States/UTs have been categorized as ‘Over-exploited’ where Current Annual Ground Water Extraction is more than Annual Extractable Ground Water Resource.

Hon’ble Prime Minister has written a letter to all sarpanchs on 08.06.2019 regarding the importance of water conservation and harvesting and exhorted them to adopt all appropriate measures to make water conservation a mass movement.

Government of India has launched the Jal Shakti Abhiyan which is a time bound campaign with a mission mode approach intended to improve water availability including ground water conditions in the water stressed blocks.

Central Government supports construction of water harvesting and conservation works primarily through Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana – Watershed Development Component (PMKSY-WDC) and PMKSY-Per Drop More Crop. Under these Schemes, 17,56,207 water conservation and recharging structures have been constructed at an expenditure of Rs. 23,435.67 crore in the last three years.

Water being a State subject, initiatives on water management including conservation and artificial recharge to ground water in the Country is primarily States’ responsibility. However, the Central Government has taken up important long term policies initiatives for conservation of ground water and rain water harvesting to recharge ground water in order to control depletion of ground water level in the country which are available at http://mowr.gov.in/sites/default/files/Steps_to_control_water_depletion_Jun2019.pdf

Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) to (e) of Starred Q.No. 262 to be answered in Lok Sabha on 11.07.2019 regarding “Shortage of Water”

State-wise Decadal Water Level Fluctuation with Mean [Premonsoon (2009 to 2018) and Premonsoon 2019]

S. No.	Name of State	No. of wells Analysed	Rise		Fall		Wells showing no change	
			No	%	No	%	No	%
1	Andhra Pradesh	714	194	27	518	73	2	0.3
2	Arunachal Pradesh	18	2	11	16	89	0	0.0
3	Assam	230	111	48	119	52	0	0.0
4	Bihar	619	195	32	419	68	5	0.8
5	Chandigarh	12	4	33	8	67	0	0.0
6	Chhattisgarh	602	237	39	352	58	13	2.2
7	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	18	2	11	16	89	0	0.0
8	Daman & Diu	11	5	45	5	45	1	9.1
9	Delhi	73	36	49	37	51	0	0.0
10	Goa	64	18	28	46	72	0	0.0
11	Gujarat	657	244	37	413	63	0	0.0
12	Haryana	279	94	34	184	66	1	0.4
13	Himachal Pradesh	101	81	80	20	20	0	0.0
14	Jammu & Kashmir	204	86	42	118	58	0	0.0
15	Jharkhand	271	103	38	168	62	0	0.0
16	Karnataka	1098	217	20	881	80	0	0.0
17	Kerala	1427	661	46	762	53	4	0.3
18	Madhya Pradesh	1099	532	48	567	52	0	0.0
19	Maharashtra	1645	401	24	1241	75	3	0.2
20	Meghalaya	53	39	74	14	26	0	0.0
21	Odisha	1064	730	69	334	31	0	0.0
22	Pondicherry	6	0	0	6	100	0	0.0
23	Punjab	245	74	30	170	69	1	0.4
24	Rajasthan	893	301	34	588	66	4	0.4
25	Tamil Nadu	612	177	29	318	52	117	19.1
26	Telangana	557	188	34	366	66	3	0.5
27	Tripura	75	31	41	44	59	0	0.0
28	Uttar Pradesh	581	157	27	423	73	1	0.2
29	Uttarakhand	42	15	36	27	64	0	0.0
30	West Bengal	358	178	50	177	49	3	0.8
Total		13628	5113	38	8357	61	158	1.2