

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3263**  
ANSWERED ON 22.07.2019

**DEPLETION OF GROUND WATER LEVELS**

3263. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that as per Central Ground Water Board's report the ground water level in the State has reached at an alarming level;
- (b) if so, the steps being taken to rejuvenate the source alongwith rain water harvesting; and
- (c) the remedial steps being taken by Government to tackle the complicated and double edged issue of migration triggered by acute water crisis in the State?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI & SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA)

(a) to (c) 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, less amount of recharge due to deficient rainfall 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 in 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.

Hon'ble Prime Minister has written a letter to all Sarpanchs on 08.06.2019 regarding the importance of water conservation and rain 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 of 256 districts in India. In this regard, team of officers from Central Government along-with technical officers from Ministry of Jal Shakti have been deputed to visit water stressed districts and to work in close collaboration with district level officials to undertake suitable demand side and supply side interventions.

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As per information received from Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, the Model Building Bye Laws, 2016, has been issued for guidance of the States/UTs which has a chapter on 'Rainwater Harvesting'. The provisions of this chapter are applicable to all the buildings. 32 States / UTs have adopted the rainwater harvesting provisions. The implementation of the rainwater harvesting policy comes within the purview of the State Government/Urban Local Body / Urban Development Authority.

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. The other important initiatives taken up are available at the following URL:

[http://mowr.gov.in/sites/default/files/Steps\\_to\\_control\\_water\\_depletion\\_Jun2019.pdf](http://mowr.gov.in/sites/default/files/Steps_to_control_water_depletion_Jun2019.pdf)

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**ANNEXURE**

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) to (c) of Unstarred Question No. 3263 to be answered in Rajya Sabha on 22.07.2019 regarding “Depletion of Ground Water Levels”.

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
<b>Total</b>		<b>13628</b>	<b>5113</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>8357</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>1.2</b>

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