

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4138

ANSWERED ON 19.12.2024

RAINWATER HARVESTING PROJECTS

4138. SHRI KULDEEP INDORA

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any initiatives for rainwater harvesting projects to be implemented in water deficient States like Rajasthan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to make it compulsory for all its establishments to set up rain harvesting system to collect roof water for groundwater recharge;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to persuade industries and private entities to take part in the initiative of rainwater harvesting?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) & (b) Water is a state subject and the efforts to manage and conserve rainwater including its harvesting comes under the domain of States/UTs. Central Government supplements the efforts of the States/UTs on water conservation and recharge, including rainwater harvesting, through technical and financial support. Some of the major initiatives taken by the Government for rainwater harvesting across the country including Rajasthan are as follows:

- i. Government of India has been implementing a scheme namely Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) which inter-alia includes water conservation and water harvesting structures.
- ii. Financial assistance is given to various States under 15th Finance Commission tied grants which can be inter-alia utilized for rainwater harvesting.
- iii. The Ministry of Jal Shakti has been implementing Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA) since 2019 on an annual basis. In the current year, Ministry of Jal Shakti is implementing Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain (JSA: CTR) 2024, 5th in the series of JSAs, in all the districts (rural as well as urban) of the country. JSA: CTR is a convergence of various Central Government schemes and funds like

MGNREGS, Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), Per Drop More Crop, Repair, Renovation and Restoration Components under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY), Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA), Finance Commission grants, State Government schemes, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds etc. One of the major interventions of the campaign is water conservation and rainwater harvesting which inter-alia includes construction and repair of rainwater harvesting structures including rooftop and recharge structures. The details of works completed in the above intervention under JSA: CTR in Rajasthan is as follows:

Years of Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain (JSA: CTR)	State	Water Conservation and Rain Water Harvesting works completed
2021	RAJASTHAN	128202
2022	RAJASTHAN	38283
2023	RAJASTHAN	63407
2024	RAJASTHAN	83733
Total		313625

Source: JSA: CTR portal (jsactr.mowr.gov.in)

iv. Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) 2.0 has provisions for harvesting the rainwater through storm water drains into water body (which is not receiving sewage/effluent). Through preparation of ‘Aquifer Management Plan’ cities targets to strategize groundwater recharge augmentation by developing a roadmap for improving rain water harvesting within city limits. Through IEC campaign, awareness is created about practices for water conservation like rainwater harvesting.

v. Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs has formulated guidelines for the States to adopt measures suitable to local conditions, such as Unified Building Bye Laws (UBBL) of Delhi, 2016, Model Building Bye Laws (MBBL), 2016 and Urban and Regional Development Plan Formulation and Implementation (URDPFI) Guidelines, 2014 with adequate focus on requirement of rainwater harvesting and water conservation measures.

vi. Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has prepared a Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Groundwater- 2020 in consultation with States/UTs which is a macro level plan indicating various structures for the different terrain conditions of the country including estimated cost. The Master Plan has provisions for construction of about 1.42 crore Rain water harvesting and artificial recharge structures in the country to harness 185 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) of monsoon rainfall.

vii. National Water Policy (2012) has been formulated by Department of Water Resources, RD & GR, which inter-alia advocates rainwater harvesting and conservation of water and also highlights the need for augmenting the availability of water through direct use of rainfall.

viii. Department of Land Resources (DoLR) implements Watershed Development Component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (WDC-PMKSY) for the development of rainfed and degraded lands in the country. The activities undertaken, inter-alia, include rainwater harvesting, nursery raising, pasture development, livelihoods for asset-less persons etc. The continuation of the scheme as WDC-PMKSY 2.0 has been approved by Government on 15th December, 2021.

(c) to (e) The Government has taken significant steps to promote rainwater harvesting across all its establishments and to involve industries and private entities in this critical initiative. As per the Model Building Bye-Laws (MBBL) formulated by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), it is mandatory to install rainwater harvesting systems in Government buildings. Additionally, under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), the construction of rooftop rainwater harvesting structures in Government and Panchayat buildings is permissible. To advance this goal, the Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari (JSJB) initiative has been launched under the Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain (JSA: CTR) campaign, which emphasizes the construction of rainwater harvesting structures in saturation mode. Ministries/Departments/Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) have been requested to utilize existing schemes to saturate the construction of recharge structures in their office and residential premises, both at headquarters and field levels.

The JSJB initiative actively engages with industrial associations to support water recharge initiatives through their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds and also to saturate their office and residential premises with water recharge and storage structures. People with resources are encouraged to build recharge structures in their states and villages of origin. State and District authorities are requested to encourage and spread awareness about the importance of CSR and private initiative in water.
