

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

STARRED QUESTION NO. *50

ANSWERED ON 06.02.2025

IMPLEMENTATION OF JAL SHAKTI ABHIYAN IN TAMIL NADU

***50.** SHRI THARANIVENTHAN M S

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

- (a) the salient features of the Jal Shakti Abhiyan;
- (b) the details of the focused intervention for the Jal Shakti Abhiyan;
- (c) the funds sanctioned, allocated and utilised under the said Abhiyan in Tamil Nadu during the last three years and the current year;
- (d) the details of the water stressed districts identified in Tamil Nadu under the said Abhiyan so far;
- (e) whether the Government has focused on efforts to control groundwater depletion and promote rain water harvesting/conservation under the said Abhiyan across the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the targets set and achievements made so far under the Abhiyan along with response thereto across the country including Tamil Nadu?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI C R PAATIL)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. *50 TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2025 IN LOK SABHA REGARDING “IMPLEMENTATION OF JAL SHAKTI ABHIYAN IN TAMIL NADU”

(a) & (b) Water is a State subject and the Central Government supplements the efforts of the States/UTs through technical and financial support. The Jal Shakti Abhiyan, with the tagline "Catch the Rain, Where It Falls, When It Falls," is an annual campaign focused on water conservation and recharge, including rainwater harvesting. It leverages convergent financing and emphasizes active community participation. The initiative is implemented nationwide from March to November each year.

Focused interventions of the Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain (JSA: CTR) campaign include (1) water conservation and rainwater harvesting, (2) enumerating, geo-tagging & making inventory of all water bodies; preparation of District Water Conservation Plans, (3) Setting up of Jal Shakti Kendras in all districts, (4) intensive afforestation and (5) awareness generation. The details of these focused interventions are at **Annexure I**. The Ministry implements various programmes/schemes from time to time for awareness generation.

(c) Funds spent under the JSA: CTR Campaign is through convergent financing from various schemes of the Central, State and local bodies like the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (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 etc.

As reported by the Government of Tamil Nadu, during the last three years (2022-2025), funds of Rs 15792.24 crore have been utilised under Jal Shakti Abhiyan within the State consisting of Rs 9331.49 crore for Water Conservation & Rainwater Harvesting, Rs 1461.51 crore for Renovation of Traditional Water Bodies, Rs 85.88 crore for Reuse and Recharge structures, Rs 4202.95 crore for Watershed Development activities and Rs 710.38 crore for Intensive Afforestation.

Apart from above, financial assistance of Rs. 2.00 lakh has been released under the Abhiyan to each district for Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping of water bodies and preparation of district water conservation plans under JSA: CTR. An amount of Rs 34 lakh has been released in 2021-22, Rs 31 lakh in 2022-23 and Rs 1.00 lakh in 2023-24 to the State of Tamil Nadu.

(d) 42 focus districts from Tamil Nadu were identified under the Abhiyan in 2019, 2023 and 2024, as detailed in **Annexure II**.

(e) Ground water depletion is dependent on a number of factors like over extraction, deforestation, soil conditions, topography etc. Various policies and schemes of the Central, State, Local Bodies such Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain, Atal Bhujal Yojana, National Aquifer Mapping programme (NAQUIM), Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Groundwater in India, Mission Amrit Sarovar, District Water Body Atlas, Water Bodies Census etc are designed to implement measures to arrest ground water depletion. The Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain (JSA: CTR) campaign also promotes water conservation through many interventions

which include rain water harvesting; renovation of traditional water bodies; reuse and recharge structures; watershed development etc to help in ground water recharge and to enhance storage capacities as well. As per CGWB's National Compilation on Ground Water Resources Assessment 2024, in Tamil Nadu, over-exploited assessment units have decreased from 39.6% to 33.87% , critical assessment units have decreased from 6.77% to 6.4%, semi-critical units have increased from 13.97% to 17.6% whereas safe units have increased from 36.62% to 40.3% as compared from 2017. The increase in percentage of semi-critical units is an indicator of shifting of units from critical to semi-critical category. Groundwater recharge through the Tank and Pond Water Conservation System (WCS) has exhibited an improvement over the years. In 2017, the recharge volume was 2.37 billion cubic meters, which increased significantly to 2.70 billion cubic meters in 2024. This overall growth reflects the effectiveness of water conservation initiatives and the role of tanks, ponds & water conservation structures in sustaining groundwater levels.

(f) There are no defined targets under this campaign and the State Governments are encouraged to undertake as many works as possible aimed at water conservation. As per the information available on JSA: CTR portal (jsactr.mowr.gov.in), till 31.01.2025, more than 1.66 crore water-related works have been taken up across the country under the JSA: CTR campaign. The Government of Tamil Nadu has reported that overall 18.80 lakh works have been undertaken in the state under the Jal Shakti Abhiyan over the past three years, focusing on the five key intervention areas. Further, 705 Jal Shakti Kendras (JSKs) have also been set up across the country and JSKs are established in all the 38 districts of Tamil Nadu. Under the Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain (JSA: CTR), district water conservation plans have been prepared by 619 districts across the country. All 38 districts in Tamil Nadu have also prepared their water conservation plans.

ANNEXURE I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *50 TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2025 REGARDING “IMPLEMENTATION OF JAL SHAKTI ABHIYAN IN TAMIL NADU”

S.No.	Year	*Water Conservation and Rain Water Harvesting	*Renovation of Traditional Water Bodies	*Reuse and Recharge Structures	*Watershed Development	Total water related works	Intensive Afforestation	Expenditure - Including Water related works and Afforestation (In Rs Crores)*
1	2019	273,256	44,497	142,740	159,354	619,847	12,35,99,566	NA
2	2021	1,627,677	297,666	832,596	1,918,913	4,676,852	36,76,60,580	65,666
3	2022	1,228,553	267,472	874,680	1,628,726	3,999,431	78,38,36,035	23,863
4	2023	1,240,827	283,627	679,863	1,483,539	3,687,856	5,50,26,292	18,915
5	2024	1,135,280	276,923	446,917	1,788,735	3,647,855	6,32,64,896	8,137
Total		5,505,593	1,170,185	2,976,796	6,979,267	1,66,31,841	139,33,87,369	116,581
Grand Total		1,66,31,841						
Total Jal Shakti Kendras established		705						
Total District Water Conservation Plans prepared		619						

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *50 TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2025 REGARDING “IMPLEMENTATION OF JAL SHAKTI ABHIYAN IN TAMIL NADU”

Details of focus districts of Tamil Nadu under

Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch The Rain - 2024

S No	JSA: CTR Year	Name of Focus Districts in Tamil Nadu
1	2024	Coimbatore
2	2024	Vellore
3	2024	Tirupathur
4	2024	Mayiladuthurai
5	2024	Salem
6	2024	Chennai
7	2024	Namakkal
8	2024	Dindigul
9	2024	Perambalur
10	2024	Thanjavur
11	2023	Ramanathapuram
12	2023	Virudhunagar
13	2023	Pudukottai
14	2023	Dharmapuri
15	2023	Cuddalore
16	2019	Chennai
17	2019	Coimbatore
18	2019	Cuddalore
19	2019	Dharmapuri
20	2019	Dindigul
21	2019	Erode
22	2019	Kanchipuram
23	2019	Karur
24	2019	Krishnagiri
25	2019	Madurai
26	2019	Nagapattinam
27	2019	Namakkal
28	2019	Perambalur
29	2019	Pudukkottai
30	2019	Salem
31	2019	Thanjavur
32	2019	Theni
33	2019	Thoothukudi
34	2019	Tiruchirappalli
35	2019	Tirunelveli
36	2019	Tiruppur
37	2019	Tiruvallur
38	2019	Tiruvannamalai
39	2019	Tiruvaur
40	2019	Vellore
41	2019	Villupuram
42	2019	Virudhunagar

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
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LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. *56

ANSWERED ON 06.02.2025

ALMATTI DAM

*56. SHRI VISHALDADA PRAKASHBAPU PATIL

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

- (a) whether various States have raised objections to the height of the Almatti dam and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether an inter-State technical team has been constituted to study the same and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any steps are proposed to be taken to reduce the height of the Almatti dam to avoid inter-State submersions; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI C R PAATIL)

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

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. *56
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2025 IN LOK SABHA REGARDING “ALMATTI DAM”**

(a) to (d) The height of the Almatti dam, as originally envisaged was with the Full Reservoir Level (FRL) of 524.256 m. However, under the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, Government of India conditionally cleared the Upper Krishna Project Stage-II (which consists of Almatti Dam) on 31.05.2000 for FRL of 519.6 m for utilization of 173 TMC of water. State of Karnataka had installed the radial gates to store water in the Almatti Dam up to FRL 524.256 m which was cut to lower its height i.e. FRL 519.6 m, at which the Almatti Dam is presently operating.

Further, during the hearing of the Krishna Water Dispute Tribunal-II (KWDT-II) constituted under section 5(2) of the Inter State River Water Dispute (ISRWD) Act, 1956, the State Governments of Maharashtra & Andhra Pradesh refused to agree to the raising of the height of Almatti Dam from 519.6 m to 524.256 m as proposed and planned by the State of Karnataka. State of Maharashtra pleaded before the KWDT-II that increase in FRL of Almatti Dam would cause submergence in the territory of Maharashtra. Additionally, the erstwhile State of Andhra Pradesh has also pleaded that raising the height of Almatti Dam would adversely affect the interest of the lower riparian areas of the State by denying the dependable flows.

The Tribunal after hearing the objections of both the States, considering the facts and circumstances and based on the report of hydrological survey conducted regarding actual sedimentation in Almatti Dam and Hippargi Barrage; has concluded in its Report 2010 (u/s 5(2) of ISRWD Act), that the apprehensions raised by both the States are not true and valid. Accordingly, the Tribunal allowed the FRL of Almatti Dam to be kept at 524.256 m. However, the final report of KWDT-II under section 5(3) of ISRWD Act has not been published so far, due to the stay order of Hon'ble SCI in a related matter.

Since the submission of the report under section 5(2) of ISRWD Act, 1956, by the KWDT-II, no reference from any Krishna basin States has been received to the Central Government, regarding objection(s) on raising the height of Almatti Dam. Therefore, question of constituting any technical team or steps to be taken to reduce the height of the Almatti Dam does not arise.
