

Drinking water supply is a State subject. It is the State Governments which plan, design, approve, execute and operate and maintain the schemes for providing safe drinking water to the population. Centralized details on State-wise, city-wise drinking water shortage are not available.

(b) to (d) Water being a State subject, initiatives on water management and conservation including rain water harvesting is primarily States' responsibility. Central Government supports construction of water harvesting and conservation works primarily through Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) aided by Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana–Watershed Development Component (PMKSY-WDC) and Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana–Per Drop More Crop. Under these schemes, during the last three years, 17,56,027 water harvesting and conservations works have been completed for which ₹ 23,435.67 crore was released as Central share.

Other measures taken by the Central Government to control water depletion and promote rain water harvesting/conservation are at the following URL:–

http://mowr.gov.in/sites/default/files/Steps_to_control_water_depletion_Jun2019.pdf

श्री उपसभापति: श्रीमती छाया वर्मा जी, आप सवाल पूछिए। मंत्री जी आप बहुत brief जवाब दें। ...**(व्यवधान)**... बहुत कम समय में जवाब दें। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्रीमती छाया वर्मा: सर, मैं बिना किसी भूमिका के सीधे अपने सवाल पर आती हूँ। मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से जानना चाहती हूँ कि गांव से लेकर शहर तक पूरे भारत में कितने एकड़ तालाब पर अवैध कब्जे हुए और उन पर इमारतें खड़ी हो गई हैं? आप केवल इसका जवाब दे दीजिए।

श्री गजेन्द्र सिंह शेखावत: माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्या ने जिस विषय की जानकारी चाही है, वह मूल रूप से राज्य का विषय है। चूंकि राज्य लैंड रिसोर्सिज के इस तरह के आँकड़े हमारे साथ शेयर नहीं करता है, इसलिए अगर माननीय सदस्य महोदय को इसकी आवश्यकता है, तो राज्यों से इस तरह के आँकड़े इकट्ठे किए जा सकते हैं, धन्यवाद।

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Internal survey on food quality in Army

*24. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any internal survey regarding the quality of food supplied to soldiers in Army was done during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) details of steps taken during the last three years to improve the quality of food supplied to soldiers;

(d) whether Government has any grievance redressal mechanism in the Ministry regarding quality of food supplied to soldiers;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): (a) and (b) The assessment and survey of food/rations in Indian Army is undertaken extensively. Laid down procedure with reference to inspection/survey of food/rations is as under:—

- (i) Daily Checks by nominated Non-Commissioned Officers and Junior Commissioned Officers, of rations received and quality of cooked food in the cook house.
- (ii) Weekly Checks by nominated Duty Officer in each unit whose written report includes comments on the quality of food and rations.
- (iii) Monthly Checks by the nominated Garrison Field officer on the quality of food/ration in each station.
- (iv) Station Commander carries out an assessment of satisfaction of units on the quality of food through Station mess Meetings.
- (v) Quarterly feedback to COAS—Compiled feedback of satisfaction level regarding food/rations for each station is forwarded by Station Commander to their respective Corps/Area Commander. Consolidated feedback of each Corps/Area on satisfaction level with quality of rations is furnished by the Corps/Area Commander to Service Headquarter for perusal of the Chief of the Army Staff (COAS). The feedback after perusal of COAS is maintained at Supply and Transport Directorate under Quarter Master General's Branch for records.

The extensive and time tested feedback architecture in Indian Army has revealed complete satisfaction among troops with the quality of food/rations.

(c) Dressed chicken/meat has been replaced with Chilled/Frozen Meat/Chicken as basic ration with effect from 01.04.2017. Trials are currently being undertaken to obtain feasibility of introducing frozen dried products as an improvement over tinned food commodities.

(d) and (e) Any grievance with reference to ration is addressed within the unit or station without delay. Besides the extensive feedback mechanism in place, all ranks in Indian Army are permitted to raise any grievance to their Commanding Officer (CO) or next higher authority. Soldiers are also encouraged to raise any un-resolved grievance on the ARMAAN Mobile Application (an Application created for all ranks to communicate their grievance to the COAS without following chain of command) and Government Central Portal for Grievance Redressal Monitoring System (CPGRAMS). Besides, Defence Institute of Physiology and Allied Science (DIPAS) is mandated to conduct study to ascertain satisfaction level among troops in different environment conditions. The last such survey report was submitted by DIPAS in 2016, which reported complete satisfaction among troops with food/rations.

(f) Not applicable.

**Supply of indigenous/foreign armaments
for Armed Forces**

†*25. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of sustained and time bound supervision methods in place with regard to demand and supply of indigenous and foreign armaments and equipments for Indian Navy, Army and Air Force and the measures adopted to ensure availability of imported armaments and equipments to meet the demand; and

(b) current status of indigenous research work towards modernisation of armaments and equipments and the action plan formulated to achieve the optimum target, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): (a) Government attaches the highest priority to ensure that the armed forces are sufficiently equipped to meet any operational requirement. This is achieved through induction of new equipment and technological upgradation of capabilities. The equipment requirements of the Armed Forces are planned and progressed through a detailed process which includes 15 year Long Term Integrated Perspective Plan (LTIPP), five year Service-wise Capability Acquisition Plan and a two year roll-on Annual Acquisition Plan (AAP). The implementation of these plans is reviewed by Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) and Defence Procurement Board (DPB) from time to time. These plans are updated/amended based on threat perception, operational challenges and technology changes.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.