Level of groundwater table

876. SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the steps taken by Government for increasing the level of groundwater table in the country;

(b) whether Government is aware of the number of industrial units granted permission for extracting groundwater in critical and over exploited zones and if so, the measures taken to mitigate its level;

(c) the mechanism framed by Government to ensure that the industries which are extracting groundwater will also have to recharge sufficient groundwater as mandated in their licence; and

(d) the list of water stressed regions and their groundwater levels, year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) Water being a State subject, initiatives on water management including conservation and water harvesting in the Country is primarily States' responsibility. Further, to supplement the efforts of the State Governments, Government of India provides technical and financial assistance to encourage sustainable development and efficient management of water resources through various schemes and programmes.

Further, a number of States have done notable work in the field of water conservation/harvesting. Of these, mention can be made of 'Mukhyamantri Jal Swavlamban Abhiyan' in Rajasthan, 'Jalyukt Shibar' in Maharashtra, 'Sujalam Sufalam Abhiyan' in Gujarat, 'Mission Kakatiya' in Telangana, 'Neeru Chettu' in Andhra Pradesh, 'Jal Jeevan Hariyali' in Bihar, 'Jal Hi Jeevan' in Haryana among others.

Government of India launched Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA), 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, teams of officers from Central Government along-with technical officers from Ministry of Jal Shakti were deputed to visit water stressed districts and to work in close collaboration with district level officials to undertake suitable interventions.

In addition, Government of India is implementing Atal Bhujal Yojana (Atal Jal), a ₹6000 crore Central Sector Scheme, for sustainable management of ground water resources with community participation. Atal Jal is being implemented in 78 water stressed districts of Seven States *viz.* Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

As per information received from Ministry of Housing and 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. 33 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.

In order to regulate the Over-exploitation and consequent depletion of ground water, the Ministry has circulated a Model Bill to all the States/UTs to enable them to enact suitable ground water legislation for regulation of its development, which includes provision of rain water harvesting. So far, 18 States/UTs have adopted and implemented the ground water legislation on the lines of Model Bill.

Further steps taken by the Central Government for conservation/harvesting of water are available at the following URL http://mowr.gov.in/writereaddta/GW_Depletion.pdf.

(b) Yes Sir. Further, Central Ground Water Authority is regulating groundwater extraction by industries, infrastructure and mining projects in 24 States/UTs including in critical and over-exploited areas as per the prevailing guidelines of 2015, which is under revision. Further, balance States/UTs are regulating groundwater extraction through their own act, notification and Government orders.

(c) While granting 'No Objection Certificate' for groundwater extraction to the project proponents, rainwater harvesting, artificial recharge to groundwater along with recycle and reuse of waste water are some of the mandatory conditions to be implemented by them. The details in this regard are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(d) The list of water stressed assessment units and their average groundwater levels, year-wise and State-wise is given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

Criteria for recharge

Industries:

Category	Withdrawal permitted (% of proposed recharge)
Safe	NOC is required for ground water withdrawal subject to adoption of artificial recharge to ground water.
Semi-critical	Withdrawal may be permitted subject to implementation of ground water recharge measures. The withdrawal should not exceed 200% of the recharged quantity.
Critical	Withdrawal may be permitted subject to implementation of ground water recharge measures. The withdrawal should not exceed 100% of the recharged quantity.
Over-exploited	Withdrawal may be permitted subject to implementation of ground water recharge measures. The withdrawal should not exceed 50% of the recharged quantity.

Water Intensive Industries:

Category	Ground Water Withdrawal Limit
Safe	Withdrawal limited to 200% of ground water recharge.
Semi-Critical	Withdrawal limited to 100% of ground water recharge.
Critical	Withdrawal limited to 50% of ground water recharge.
Over-Exploited	No permission for Industries under this category.

Statement-II

State-wise ground water level in water stressed areas (Over Exploited and Critical Blocks) from 2015 to 2019

Sl. No.	State having OE / Critical Blocks (Water Stressed Areas)	Number of OE blocks in the State (2017)	Number of Critical blocks in the State (2017)	Pre-monsoon Average Water level (m bgl)				
				2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1.	Andhra Pradesh	45	24	10.6	7.9	11.6	18.4	22.5
2.	Bihar	12	18	7.1	7.5	7.6	8.1	8.6
3.	Chhattisgarh	0	2	5.8	8.9	8.6	7.1	8.0
4.	Delhi	22	2	19.1	19.5	24.3	23.2	19.8
5.	Gujarat	25	5	33.9	39.2	39.4	38.8	37.8
6.	Haryana	78	3	19.4	20.5	21.2	19.7	19.8
7.	Himachal Pradesh	4	0	6.9	8.2	7.9	5.9	7.7
8.	Jharkhand	3	2	6.3	7.0	6.2	6.6	7.0
9.	Karnataka	45	8	10.6	11.7	14.0	11.9	14.9
10.	Kerala	1	2	9.2	10.6	11.4	12.5	10.7

11.	Madhya Pradesh	22	7	15.7	17.1	15.2	15.7	15.7
12.	Maharashtra	11	9	10.4	13.4	12.5	13.1	16.3
13.	Punducherry	1	0	12.6	13.6	15.2	2.4	16.2
14.	Punjab	109	2	16.0	17.7	18.3	18.8	18.3
15.	Rajasthan	185	33	25.0	25.5	25.5	26.3	26.7
16.	Tamil Nadu	462	79	8.9	8.1	12.5	9.6	11.9
17.	Telangana	70	67	13.3	13.7	11.9	11.5	14.3
18.	Uttar Pradesh	91	48	11.6	12.9	12.5	13.7	12.9
19.	West Bengal	0	1	14.1	14.6	14.0	12.7	10.5