

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3141

ANSWERED ON 06.08.2026

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW PONDS FOR GROUNDWATER RECHARGE

†3141. Dr. ANAND KUMAR:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to formulate any new or revised action plan for the districts/blocks identified under the 'Over-exploited' or 'Critical' category by the Central Ground Water Board under the Atal Bhujal Yojana (ABY) and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government proposes to give priority to such critical areas for groundwater recharge through construction of the five hundred new ponds announced in the Budget 2026-27 and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the number of new ponds proposed/sanctioned in Uttar Pradesh, particularly in the critical areas of Bahraich Lok Sabha Constituency; and**
- (d) the timeline fixed in this regard along with the financial provisions made therein?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

- (a) Atal Bhujal Yojana, a community-led participatory groundwater management scheme, was implemented on pilot basis across 8,203 water-stressed Gram Panchayats in 229 blocks of 80 districts in seven States viz. Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, during the period from 01.04.2020 to 15.10.2025.**

Atal Bhujal Yojana was a pilot programme conceived with a fixed duration & outlay which has successfully demonstrated the efficacy of community centred ground water management and provided a replicable model which can be taken up for implementation by other States. The learnings of the pilot programme have been shared with States for replication.

(b) to (d) The Government of India (GoI), in the Union Budget 2026-27, has announced the development of fisheries and aquaculture by undertaking integrated development of 500 Reservoirs and Amrit Sarovars in the country, including Uttar Pradesh. The initiative reinforces the Government's objective to harvest the untapped fisheries potential of Reservoirs and Amrit Sarovars, strengthening the livelihoods of fishermen and promoting the engagement of women Self-Help Groups (SHGs), fisheries cooperatives, and Fish Farmers Producer Organizations (FFPOs) in the development of fisheries in Reservoirs and Amrit Sarovars. The Ground Water Resources Assessment by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) indicates that reservoirs and ponds have enhanced surface and groundwater availability.

The Department of Fisheries, GoI, in consultation with States and Union Territories, has selected 351 number of Reservoirs and 100 number of Amrit Sarovars for implementation of this scheme across the country.

The Department of Fisheries, in consultation with the Government of Uttar Pradesh, has selected 19 Reservoirs, and 12 Amrit Sarovars in Uttar Pradesh, details of which given at Annexure.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) to (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3141 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 06.08.2026 REGARDING “CONSTRUCTION OF NEW PONDS FOR GROUNDWATER RECHARGE”

1 List of 19 Reservoirs selected in the State of Uttar Pradesh is given below:

Sl. No.	Name of Reservoirs	District
1	Rihand	Sonbhadra
2	Moosakhand	Chandauli
3	Naughar	Chandauli
4	Rangwan	Banda
5	Bariarpur	Banda
6	Barua	Chitrakoot
7	Pahadi	Jhansi
8	Badwar	Jhansi
9	Pahuj	Jhansi
10	Mata Tila	Lalitpur
11	Latifshah	Chandauli
12	Kamla Sagar	Jhansi
13	Chandraval	Mahoba
14	Urmil	Mahoba
15	Jirgo	Mirzapur
16	Gunta	Chitrakoot
17	Shahjahan	Lalitpur
18	Arjun	Mahoba
19	Obra	Sonbhadra

2 List of 12 Amrit Sarovars selected in the State of Uttar Pradesh is given below:

Sl. No.	Name of Amrit Sarovars	District
1	Kathirav, Pindara	Varanasi
2	Barautha, Koil	Aligarh
3	Basob, Konch	Jalaun
4	Ballasai Khera, Haidergarh	Barabanki
5	Achroo Ladhaura, Mahavan	Mathura
6	Bhilaura, Sadar	Gorakhpur
7	Mandola, Loni	Ghaziabad
8	Kaul, Sadar	Meerut
9	Bhusaula, Bansi	Siddharthnagar
10	Loi, Budhana	Muzaffarnagar
11	Unchaa, Fatehabaad	Agra
12	Ekdala, Khaga	Fatehpur
