

# **BUREAU OF PARLIAMENTARY STUDIES AND TRAINING**

## **LECTURE SERIES FOR MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT**

### **LECTURE**

Subject	Artificial Recharge to Ground Water Rain Water Harvesting
Delivered by	Dr. D.K. Dutt, Ex-Chairman Central Ground Water Board
Date	: 23 <sup>rd</sup> August, 2006
Time	: 0900 hours
Venue	BPST Committee Hall, First Floor, Parliament Library Building New Delhi.

(a/rc)

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Hon. Dr. Vallabhbhai Kathiria, Member-Convener, Parliamentary Forum on Water Conservation and Management, hon. Members of Parliament, Dr. D.K. Dutt and Friends.

It gives me great pleasure to welcome Dr. Vallabhbhai Kathiria and the other distinguished Members of the Parliamentary Forum on Water Conservation and Management, hon. Members of Parliament, Dr. D.K. Dutt and others to the Ninth Lecture in the Lecture Series being organized for the hon. Members of Parliament.

The present Lecture is being jointly organized by the Parliamentary Forum on Water Conservation and Management and the Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training. Today's topic "Artificial Recharge to Ground Water and Rain Water Harvesting" was, in fact, suggested by Dr. Vallabhbhai Kathiria, who, as the Convener of the Forum has been contributing substantially by his active participation in achieving the aims and objectives of the Forum. It is, indeed, my pleasure to welcome Dr. Vallabhbhai Kathiria to this function.

As all of you are aware, it was in August last year that the hon. Speaker had set up the "Parliamentary Forum on Water Conservation and Management", a pioneering initiative which has proved very effective in equipping the Members of Parliament and others with information for appropriately addressing the concerns in the sphere of water conservation and management. In another path-breaking initiative, the hon. Speaker also started the Lecture Series for Members of Parliament in which prominent personalities and subject specialists have addressed Members. These Lectures have been found very useful and informative. All of us are indeed profoundly indebted to the hon. Speaker for these laudable initiatives.

As you all would recall, on earlier occasions, we have had the benefit of hearing environmental crusaders like Ms. Sunita Narain, Director, Centre for Science and Environment, and Shri Rajender Singh President, Tarun Bharat Sangh, on Water Conservation, which were found very useful by all of us in better

understanding the intricacies of the key challenges which the country is presently facing in this regard.

Today, we have with us Dr. D.K. Dutt, former Chairman of the Central Ground Water Board, sharing his experience and expertise with us on the theme "Artificial Recharge to Ground Water and Rain Water Harvesting". Dr. Dutt has versatile professional experience of more than three decades in the field of ground water exploration and management. He started his professional career in 1954 with the Geological Survey of India. Subsequently, he joined the Central Ground Water Board and was closely associated with addressing and solving various ground water management problems in the country. During 1986-1989, the Central Ground Water Board took several important initiatives in the field of ground water development under the chairmanship and guidance of Dr. Dutt. He was also associated with the Rural Electrification Corporation from 1979 to 1985. Dr. Dutt has also co-authored a book titled "Ground Water Development in India", enumerating various facets of ground water management, artificial re-charge and rain water harvesting. As such, Dr. Dutt is eminently equipped to speak on this subject.

As we all know, effective water management is very essential for the growth and development of any country. It is more so in the case of a highly populous country like India which is endowed with a wide network of rivers, lakes and other traditional water sources like wells and ponds. Our water resources need to be conserved, recharged and managed to meet the ever increasing demands of our farmers and industries as also our growing population, particularly the urban population. In this context, I am sure, Dr. Dutt's Lecture will help us to better understand how important it is to facilitate rain water harvesting and the need to recharge ground water.

With these words, I once again welcome all of you to this Lecture.

Now, I would request Dr. Kathiria, Member-Convener to address us.

DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA: Hon. Advisor, BPST, Smt. Margaret Alva, hon. Members of Parliament, Ex-Chairman, Central Ground Water Board, Dr. D.K. Dutt; Shri M. Rajagopalan Nair, Additional Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat; Ladies and Gentlemen.

I am indeed pleased to be here this morning at the Lecture Session on "Artificial Recharge to Ground Water and Rain Water Harvesting". The importance of this subject can hardly be over-emphasized.

We, the Members of Parliament, attach a great deal of importance to the conservation and efficient utilization of water. The hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha has constituted a Parliamentary Forum on Water Conservation and Management in August 2005. In pursuit of our endeavours, in a short span of time we have already had two lectures on water conservation one by Ms. Sunita Narain, Director, Centre for Science and Environment and another by Shri Rajendra Singh a Magasaysay Award Winner and a pioneer in the water management field. I am confident that today's lecture by yet another well known expert in the field, ex-Chairman, Central Ground Water Board, Dr. D.K. Dutt will enlighten us especially on the methods and process of artificial recharge of water and rain water harvesting.

With these words, I am happy to welcome Dr. Dutt and request him to share his insights on a subject about which he is extremely knowledgeable. I am sure, hon. Members of Parliament and other present here this morning at this lecture will find the interaction with Dr. D.K. Dutt very rewarding and informative.

DR. D.K. DUTT: Smt. Margaret Alva, Hon. Advisor, BPST, Hon. Dr. Vallabhbhai Kathiria, Member-Convener, Parliamentary Forum on Water Conservation and Management, hon. Members of Parliament, Shri M. Rajagopalan Nair, Additional Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat; Ladies and Gentlemen.

I am greatly honoured to be asked to present my perception to this august body regarding an important subject of "Artificial Recharge to Ground Water and Rain Water Harvesting". I am conscious to my limitations of the subject but I hope I am able to rise up to the occasion as expected by the hon. Chair here.

I will now request the Chair to kindly permit me to make the presentation and move to that side so that I can give a presentation.

Hon. Members, I now introduce the main topic of the day "Artificial Recharge to Ground Water and Rain Water Harvesting" and begin with the display of maps here.

**(SLIDE PRESENTATION)**

(b/spr)

I am thankful to you all for giving me a very patient hearing. If there are any questions, you may ask. I would be willing to respond.

**(THE LECTURE THEN ADJOURNED)**