GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1196

ANSWERED ON 13.02.2023

CONTAMINATED GROUNDWATER IN KARNATAKA

1196. SHRI NARAYANA KORAGAPPA

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

(a) the details on contaminated groundwater posing health risk in Karnataka, district-wise;and

(b) the steps taken by Government to ensure availability of contamination-free groundwater?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU**)**

(a) Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) generates ground water quality data on a regional scale during various scientific studies and ground water quality monitoring throughout the country. These studies indicate the occurrence of fluoride, arsenic, nitrate, iron and heavy metals beyond the BIS permissible limits in isolated pockets in various parts of the country, including Karnataka.

Further, in the State of Karnataka, 29 districts have been partially affected due to high salinity (EC above 3,000 micro mhos/cm), 30 districts partially affected due to fluoride (above 1.5 mg/l), 29 districts partially affected due to nitrate (above 45 mg/l), 03 districts partially affected due to arsenic (above 0.01 mg/l) and 22 districts partially affected due to iron (above 1 mg/l). Names of the districts partially affected due to contaminants in ground water in Karnataka are given at **Annexure**.

(b) Water being a State subject, initiatives on water management, including its quality is primarily States' responsibility; however, various steps have been taken by the Central Government for controlling water contamination in the country.

Government of India is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) – Har Ghar Jal, since August, 2019, in partnership with States including Karnataka, to make provision of potable tap water supply in adequate quantity, of prescribed quality and on regular & long-term basis to every rural household by 2024. Under JJM, while allocating the funds to States/ UTs, 10% weightage is given to the population residing in habitations affected by chemical contaminants.

Since, planning, implementation and commissioning of piped water supply scheme based on a safe water source may take time, purely as an interim measure, States/UTs have been advised to install community water purification plants (CWPPs) especially in arsenic and fluoride affected habitations to provide potable water to every household at the rate of 8–10 litre per capita per day (lpcd) to meet their drinking and cooking requirements.

Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), in association with State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees (SPCBs/PCCs), is implementing the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control) Act, 1974 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to prevent and control pollution in water.

In addition, the quality of groundwater can be improved to some extent if concerted efforts are made to improve the groundwater resources through appropriate groundwater recharge/rainwater harvesting. Central Government has taken a number of initiatives in this direction which can be seen at https://jalshakti-dowr.gov.in/sites/default/files/Steps%20taken%20by%20the%20Central%20Govt%20for%20water_depletion_july2022.pdf

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1196 TO BE ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 13.02.2023 REGARDING "CONTAMINATED GROUNDWATER IN KARNATAKA".

Details of Partly Affected Districts with Selected Contaminants in Ground Water of Karnataka**

S. No.	State/UT	Salinity (EC above 3000 micro mhos/ cm) (EC: Electrical Conductivity)	Fluoride (above 1.5 mg/l)	Nitrate (above 45 mg/l)	Arsenic (above 0.01 mg/l)	Iron (above 1mg/l)	Uranium (above 0.03mg/l)	Heavy metals: Lead (above 0.01 mg/l) Chromium (above 0.05 mg/l)
1	**Karnataka**	Bagalkote, Bangalore-Rural, Bangalore-Urban, Belgaum, Bellary, Bijapur, Chamarajnagara, Chikballapur, Chikmagalur, Chitradurga, Dakshina Kannada, Davanagere, Dharwad, Gadag, Gulburga, Hassan, Haveri, Kodagu/ Coorg, Kolar, Koppal, Mandya, Mysore, Raichur, Ramanagara, Shimoga, Tumkur, Udupi, Uttara Kannada, Yadgir **(Total – 29 districts)**	Bagalkot, Bangalore-Rural, Bangalore-Urban, Belgaum, Bellary, Bidar, Bijapur, Chikaballapur Chamarajanagar, Chikmagalur, Chitradurga, Davanagere, Dharwad, Dakshina Kannada, Gadag, Gulburga, Hassan, Haveri, Kolar, Koppal, Mandya, Mysore, Raichur, Ramnagara, Shimoga, Tumkur, Yadgir, Uttara Kannada, Udupi, Kodagu **(Total – 30 districts)**	Bagalkot, Bangalore-urban, Belgaum, Bellary, Bidar, Bijapur, Chikmagalur, Chitradurga, Davanagere, Dharwad, Gadag, Gulburga, Hassan, Haveri, Kodagu, Kolar, Koppal, Mandya, Raichur. Shimoga, Udupi, Uttar Kannada, Chamarajanagar, Chickballapur, Mysore, Ramnagara, Bangalore-Rural, Tumkur, Yadgir **(Total – 29 districts)**	Raichur, Gadag, Yadgir **(Total – 03 districts)**	Bagalkot, Bangalore-Rural, Belgaum, Bellary, Bidar, Bijapur, Chikmagalur, Chitradurga, Dakshina Kannada, Davanagere, Gulburga, Hassan, Haveri, Kodagu, Kolar, Koppal, Mysore, Raichur, Shimoga, Tumkur, Udupi, Uttar Kannada **(Total – 22 districts)**	Bangalore Rural, Bangalore Urban, Bellary, Gulbarga, Kolar, Mandya, Raichur, Tumkur **(Total – 08 districts)**	**Lead**- Udupi **(Total – 01 districts)** **Chromium**: Raichur,Dakshin Kannad, Tumkur, Kolar, Koppal, Bangalore Urban, Ramnagara **(Total – 07 districts)**

**Note : The data/information indicates the contamination level of groundwater in certain monitoring wells monitored by the CGWB (point sources) and indicates the quality of groundwater in certain pockets/ area of each districts.

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