

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 514**  
ANSWERED ON 07/12/2023

**IDENTIFICATION OF BRACKISH WATER IN THE COUNTRY**

514. SHRI SANT BALBIR SINGH:

Will the Minister of **EARTH SCIENCES** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has planned any policy to promote desalination of brackish water;
- (b) whether Government proposes any foreign aid or research to set up desalination plants in the areas as required and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has any mechanism to monitor or identify brackish water areas; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the areas identified in the State of Punjab along with the initiatives taken by Government to improve the quality of ground water in those area?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES  
(SHRI KIREN RIJU)

- (a) No Sir.
- (b) No Sir.
- (c) & (d) Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) generates ground water quality data on a regional scale during various scientific studies and periodical ground water quality monitoring throughout the country. Salinity (Electrical Conductivity) more than 3000  $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$  have been reported in parts of a total of 12 districts of State of Punjab namely Bhatinda, Faridkot, Fazilka, Ferozpur, Gurdaspur, Ludhiana, Mansa, Moga, Muktsar, Patiala, Sangrur and SAS Nagar. Water being a State Subject, initiatives on its quality is primarily States' responsibility. The data on ground water quality generated by CGWB are being shared with respective State government for policy-making and implementation of suitable measures.

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