

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES,
RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †3261
ANSWERED ON 15.03.2018

DECREASE IN GROUND WATER LEVEL

†3261. SHRIMATI KAMLA DEVI PAATLE

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the level of ground water is decreasing constantly in various parts of the country including Chhattisgarh since the last three years;

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof including Chhattisgarh and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the main reason for decline in ground water level is indiscriminate exploitation of water by private companies, power plants and industries especially in Chhattisgarh and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the power plants established/under construction in Janjgir Champa region of Chhattisgarh rely mainly on ground water and they try to influence Water-Resource Department by using unfair means;

(e) if so, whether the Central Ground Water Board proposes to ban tube wells and borings and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to prevent power plants from using ground water and to resolve the drinking water crisis?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION & PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a) to (c) Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) periodically monitors the ground water level of the Country four times in a year on regional scale through a network of observation wells in the Country including for the State of Chhattisgarh. Comparison of water level data, as monitored by CGWB, for Pre-monsoon 2017 with three years mean (2014-2016) indicates decline in ground water level in more than 63% of the wells in the Country. Details are given at **Annexure**. Ground water levels in various parts of the Country are declining due to increase in population, rapid urbanization & industrialization and other related factors.

(d) As per Ministry of Power, Government of India, the Thermal Power plants commissioned/under construction in Janjgir Champa District of Chhattisgarh are having necessary environmental clearance from MoEF & CC and are based on the river water.

(e) In view of the above, question does not arise.

(f) Usages of ground water for industrial purposes are being regulated by Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) Guidelines. Water being a State subject, steps for regulation, augmentation, conservation and efficient management of ground water resources are primarily undertaken by the respective State Governments. Steps taken by the Central Government for conservation of ground water are available at the following URL http://mowr.gov.in/sites/default/files/MeasuresForGW-Depletion_1.pdf.

Annexure referred to in reply to parts (a) to (c) of Unstarred Question No.†3261 to be answered in Lok Sabha on 15.03.2018 regarding “Decrease in Ground Water Level”.

**State-wise Water Level Fluctuation
With Mean [Pre-monsoon (2014 to 2016) and Pre-monsoon, 2017]**

S. No.	Name of State	No. of wells Analysed	Rise		Fall		Wells showing no change	
			No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	81	49	60	32	40	0	0.0
2	Andhra Pradesh	751	170	23	571	76	10	1.3
3	Arunachal Pradesh	12	6	50	6	50	0	0.0
4	Assam	161	77	48	83	52	1	0.6
5	Bihar	634	348	55	279	44	7	1.1
6	Chandigarh	10	1	10	9	90	0	0.0
7	Chhattisgarh	536	181	34	352	66	3	0.6
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	15	8	53	7	47	0	0.0
9	Daman & Diu	11	7	64	4	36	0	0.0
10	Delhi	91	29	32	62	68	0	0.0
11	Goa	65	47	72	18	28	0	0.0
12	Gujarat	798	315	39	448	56	35	4.4
13	Haryana	296	73	25	223	75	0	0.0
14	Himachal Pradesh	90	23	26	67	74	0	0.0
15	Jammu & Kashmir	226	56	25	170	75	0	0.0
16	Jharkhand	224	75	33	149	67	0	0.0
17	Karnataka	1418	398	28	975	69	45	3.2
18	Kerala	1358	415	31	936	69	7	0.5
19	Madhya Pradesh	1316	495	38	819	62	2	0.2
20	Maharashtra	1560	643	41	904	58	13	0.8
21	Meghalaya	19	10	53	9	47	0	0.0
22	Nagaland	3	2	67	1	33	0	0.0
23	Odisha	1266	438	35	821	65	7	0.6
24	Puducherry	5	0	0	5	100	0	0.0
25	Punjab	234	34	15	200	85	0	0.0
26	Rajasthan	832	386	46	444	53	2	0.2
27	Tamil Nadu	524	76	15	446	85	2	0.4
28	Telangana	585	315	54	267	46	3	0.5
29	Tripura	23	13	57	10	43	0	0.0
30	Uttar Pradesh	628	149	24	479	76	0	0.0
31	Uttarakhand	40	19	48	21	53	0	0.0
32	West Bengal	520	273	53	246	47	1	0.2
Total		14332	5131	35.8	9063	63.2	138	1.0
