

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †5379
ANSWERED ON 25.07.2019

EXPLOITATION OF GROUND WATER BY BUILDERS AND INDUSTRIES

†5379. SHRI BHOLA SINGH
DR. SWAMI SAKSHIJI MAHARAJ

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any existing provision regarding the exploitation of ground water by builders/industrial institutions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that due to over exploitation of ground water in several States including Delhi/ NCR by the builders/industrial institutions, the ground water table has reached on alarming low level;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the remedial measures taken in this direction;
- (e) whether the Central Pollution Control Board has prepared a report on the directions of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) which has a provision to impose fine on builders/industrial institutions exploiting ground water; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI & SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA)

(a) & (b) Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has been constituted under Section 3(3) of the 'Environment (Protection) Act, 1986' for the purpose of regulation and control of ground water development and management in the Country. CGWA grants No Objection Certificates for ground water abstraction, in 23 States/UTs, through guidelines which are modified from time to time. Rest of the States / UTs are regulating ground water development through their own Acts, notifications or Government Orders. Further, CGWA has also appointed the District Magistrate / District Collector of each Revenue District and Regional Directors of CGWB in these States as Authorized Officers, with power to enforce compliance of NOC conditions.

As per the existing groundwater regulation guidelines, industries are mandatorily required to undertake groundwater recharge measures commensurate to the quantum of water abstraction approved by CGWA. Further, CGWA, in its latest water regulation guidelines notified vide Gazette Notification SO 6140(E) dated 12.12.2018 had proposed introduction of Water Conservation Fee (WCF). However, Hon'ble NGT vide its order dated 03.01.2019 has directed that the notified guidelines may not be given effect to.

(c) & (d) Ground water levels in various parts of the Country are declining because of continuous withdrawal due to reasons such as increased demand of fresh water for various uses, vagaries of rainfall, increased population, industrialization & urbanization etc.

The Dynamic Ground Water Resources of the country are being periodically assessed jointly by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) and State Governments. As per the 2017 assessment, out of the total 6881 assessment units (Block/ Taluks/ Mandals/ watersheds/ Firkas) in the country, 1186 units in 17 States/UTs have been categorized as 'Over-exploited' where Annual Ground Water Extraction is more than Annual Extractable Ground Water Resource. Details are given in **Annexure**.

Government of India has launched the Jal Shakti Abhiyan which is a time bound campaign with a mission mode approach intended to improve water availability including ground water conditions in the water stressed blocks of 256 districts in India. In this regard, team of officers from Central Government along-with technical officers from Ministry of Jal Shakti have been deputed to visit water stressed districts and to work in close collaboration with district level officials to undertake suitable demand side and supply side interventions.

Central Government supports construction of water harvesting and conservation works primarily through Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana – Watershed Development Component (PMKSY-WDC) and PMKSY-Per Drop More Crop. Under these Schemes, 17,56,207 water conservation and recharging structures have been constructed at an expenditure of Rs.23,435.67 crore in the last three years.

In addition, for enhancing water use efficiency, the Central Government is promoting micro-irrigation systems, Command Area Development works, Participatory Irrigation Management, recycle and reuse of water amongst others.

Water being a State subject, initiatives on water management including conservation and artificial recharge to ground water in the Country is primarily States' responsibility. The other important initiatives taken up are available at the following URL:

http://mowr.gov.in/sites/default/files/Steps_to_control_water_depletion_Jun2019.pdf.

(e) & (f) The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) has directed Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) to constitute a mechanism to deal with individual cases of violation of norms, as existed prior to 12/12/2018 and to determine the environment compensation to be recovered or other coercive measures to be taken, including prosecution, for past illegal extraction of ground water, as per law.

In compliance to the order, CPCB has submitted a report in this regard to Hon'ble NGT.

ANNEXURE

Annexure referred to in reply to parts (c) & (d) of Unstarred Question No.†5379 to be answered in Lok Sabha on 25.07.2019 regarding “Exploitation of Ground Water by Builders and Industries”

S.No.	States / Union Territories	Total No. of Assessed Units	Over-Exploited	
			Nos.	%
	States			
1	Andhra Pradesh	670	45	7
2	Arunachal Pradesh	11	0	0
3	Assam	28	0	0
4	Bihar	534	12	2
5	Chhattisgarh	146	0	0
6	Delhi	34	22	65
7	Goa	12	0	0
8	Gujarat	248	25	10
9	Haryana	128	78	61
10	Himachal Pradesh	8	4	50
11	Jammu & Kashmir	22	0	0
12	Jharkhand	260	3	1
13	Karnataka	176	45	26
14	Kerala	152	1	1
15	Madhya Pradesh	313	22	7
16	Maharashtra	353	11	3
17	Manipur	9	0	0
18	Meghalaya	11	0	0
19	Mizoram	26	0	0
20	Nagaland	11	0	0
21	Odisha	314	0	0
22	Punjab	138	109	79
23	Rajasthan	295	185	63
24	Sikkim	4	0	0
25	Tamil Nadu	1166	462	40
26	Telangana	584	70	12
27	Tripura	59	0	0
28	Uttar Pradesh*	830	91	11
29	Uttarakhand	18	0	0
30	West Bengal **	268	0	0
	Total States	6828	1185	17
	Union Territories			
1	Andaman & Nicobar	36	0	0
2	Chandigarh	1	0	0
3	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	0	0
4	Daman & Diu	2	0	0
5	Lakshdweep	9	0	0
6	Puducherry	4	1	25
	Total UTs	53	1	2
	Grand Total	6881	1186	17

Note

Blocks- Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Jharkhand, Kerala, M.P., Manipur, Mizoram, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh

Taluks- Karnataka, Goa, Gujarat, Maharashtra

Mandals- Andhra Pradesh, Telangana

Districts/Valley- Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland

Islands- Lakshadweep, Andaman & Nicobar Islands

Firka- Tamil Nadu

Region- Puducherry

UT- Chandigarh, Dadar & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu

Tehsil-NCT Delhi

***Uttar Pradesh:** There are total 820 block and 10 Cities

****The Ground Water resources assessment as on 2013 has been considered for the state of West Bengal**
