

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA
REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1549

ANSWERED ON 15.12.2022

DEPLETING GROUND WATER LEVEL

1549 SHRI LALLU SINGH

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

- (a) whether the ground water level is continuously depleting as per Government's report;
- (b) if so, whether the ground water level is depleting by one meter every year in some States;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to formulate new policies regarding water management to prevent unnecessary water tapping; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) is periodically monitoring the ground water levels throughout the Country on a regional scale, through a network of monitoring wells. In order to assess the long term fluctuation in ground water level, the water level data collected by CGWB during November 2021 has been compared with the decadal mean of November (2011-2020). Analysis of water level data indicates that about 70 % wells have registered rise in water level whereas, about 30% of the wells monitored have registered decline.

Further, as per Groundwater resource assessment report 2022 prepared jointly by CGWB and States, the total annual ground water recharge in the country is 437.60 billion cubic meters (BCM), which is 5.74 BCM more as compared to 2017 assessment (431.86 BCM).

(b) & (c) CGWB has compared the groundwater level of November 2021 (average groundwater level of all monitoring wells falling in a district) with decadal average of groundwater level for the period November 2011 to November 2020 (in the same district) for the entire country. The comparison indicates that in 41 districts falling in 15 States, the average decline in groundwater is around one metre PER year. The details in this regard are given at **Annexure**.

(d) & (e) 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 (NOCs) for ground water abstraction to Industries, Infrastructure units and Mining projects in feasible areas in certain States/UTs where regulation is not being done by the respective State/UTs. The latest guideline for control and regulation of groundwater extraction with pan-India applicability was notified by the Ministry on 24 September 2020.

The guidelines prescribe Water Abstraction/ Restoration charges whose rates are telescopic in nature, increasing with daily volume of extraction and deteriorating category of the area, as well as type of industry to discourage groundwater extraction and prevent unnecessary tapping.

Further, the Ministry is time to time issuing guidelines to States/UTs to promote improved irrigation practices like use of micro-irrigation systems like drip/sprinkler systems, crop diversification/crop rotation and also engage communities to promote participatory groundwater management.

ANNEXURE**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) & (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1549 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 15.12.2022 REGARDING “DEPLETION GROUND WATER LEVEL”**

Districts where ground water level decline is on an average 1.0 m per year in the country when comparing decadal average of November (2011 to 2020) data and November 2021 data

SI No.	Name of State	Districts where ground water level has fallen more than 10 m
1	Andhra Pradesh	Krishna (15.0m), Kurnool (31.74m)
2	Chhatisgarh	Bilaspur (13.75m), Koriya (12.45m)
3	Gujarat	Kachchh (12.43m), Panchmahals (13.16m), Sabarkantha (13.36m)
4	Haryana	Fatehabad (11.49m),
5	Himachal Pradesh	Sirmaur (29.77m)
6	Karnataka	Bangalore Urban (11.72m)
7	Kerala	Kasaragod (10.01m), Palakkad (12.21m)
8	Madhya Pradesh	Tikamgarh (11.43m)
9	Maharashtra	Jalgaon (14.78m), Yavatmal (15.69m)
10	Rajasthan	Alwar (24.46m), Bharatpur (12.81m), Bikaner (27.48m), Churu (11.97m), Dausa (25.21m), Jaipur (16.97m), Jalor (16.85m), Jhunjhunu (12.21m), Jodhpur (19.7m), Karauli (41.01m), Pali (12.36m), Sirohi (10.38m) and Tonk (11.09m)
11	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore (10.24m), Cuddalore (16.65m),
12	Telangana	Karimnagar (15.43m), Mehbubnagar (10.22m), Medak (17.07m) and Ranga Reddy (17.54m)
13	Uttar Pradesh	Budaun (11.29m), Gautam Budhha Nagar (11.87m), Jaunpur (10.91m)
14	Uttaranchal	Udham Singh Nagar (10.59m)
15	West Bengal	Birbhum (21.03m), Maldah (17.49m), Murshidabad (11.62m)

Note : For estimation average groundwater level has been calculated based on readings from each wells falling in that particular district.
