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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3164
ANSWERED ON 04.08.2022

POLLUTION OF GROUND WATER

3164    SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL
Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:
(a) whether the Government has issued any strict guidelines to control indiscriminate use of chemicals
and fertilizers which is a major cause of rapidly increasing ground water pollution in the country;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether any board/sub-committee is formed to check the pollution of ground water regularly; and
(d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI
(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) & (b) Water being State subject, preparation of guidelines etc normally falls under States’ mandate,
however as per Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) study, groundwater pollution is mostly Geogenic
in nature and does not show significant change over the years. Further, it has been observed that nitrate
contamination is mostly Anthropogenic and its spread has been noticed in some areas, particularly areas
adjoining habitations. Further, nitrate contamination can also be caused by use of fertilizers. However,
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 in the country to prevent and control pollution in water.

(c) & (d) CGWB monitors ground water quality throughout the country annually and generates ground
water quality data on a regional scale during various scientific studies. These studies indicate the
occurrence of Fluoride, Arsenic, Nitrate, Iron and Heavy Metals beyond the BIS permissible limits in
isolated pockets in certain parts of the country.

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