

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 650**

ANSWERED ON 06.02.2025

**ANNUAL GROUND WATER QUALITY REPORT, 2024**

650.	SHRI PRAVEEN PATEL	DR. BHOLA SINGH
	SHRI P C MOHAN	DR. VINOD KUMAR BIND
	SHRI TEJASVI SURYA	SHRI P P CHAUDHARY
	SHRI LUMBA RAM	DR. HEMANT VISHNU SAVARA
	SHRI VISHWESHWAR HEGDE KAGERI	SHRI YOGENDER CHANDOLIA
	SHRI JASWANTSINH SUMANBHAI BHABHOR	SHRI PRATAP CHANDRA SARANGI
	SMT. SMITA UDAY WAGH	SHRI DINESHBHAI MAKWANA
	SHRI TAPIR GAO	SHRI MAHESH KASHYAP
	SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB	DR. RAJESH MISHRA
	SHRI KHAGEN MURMU	

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

- (a) the key findings of the Annual Ground Water Quality Report 2024, particularly regarding newly identified contaminants and critical areas requiring immediate intervention thereof in the country including Palghar and Jalgaon Parliamentary Constituencies in Maharashtra;
- (b) whether any comparison has been made with the data of previous year to identify trends in groundwater contamination and if so, the details thereof along with the remedial measures taken/being taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether any assessment has been conducted regarding the effectiveness of existing groundwater quality improvement initiatives and if so, the details and outcomes thereof;
- (d) whether any framework has been established for community and private sector participation in groundwater quality management and if so, the details thereof along with the outcome thereof;
- (e) the details of the contaminants identified in ground water in Palghar district of Maharashtra; and
- (f) the efforts being made to filter the groundwater in Sidhi Parliamentary Constituency which has coal deposits in a larger area causing extreme decline in the water quality?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI**

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) The Annual Groundwater Quality Report 2024 prepared by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) is based on the ground water sampling and analysis from 15,259 monitoring locations spread across the country. The major objective of the report is to study various water quality parameters like Electrical Conductivity(EC), Fluoride, Arsenic, heavy metals, Nitrate etc. in groundwater used for drinking and agriculture purposes. The

report has found the presence of above contaminants beyond the prescribed limits for human consumption in isolated pockets of some States/UTs. Apart from that, no new emerging pollutants have been identified in the report.

The detailed report containing the details of various ground water quality parameters, regions where contamination is reported, various factors having a bearing on contamination etc. can be viewed at <https://cgwb.gov.in/cgwbpm/public/uploads/documents/17363272771910393216file.pdf>

Further, as per the Annual Ground Water Quality report 2024, no new contaminants have been identified in the Palghar and Jalgaon Parliamentary Constituency of Maharashtra. However, in Jalgaon Constituency, nitrate has been observed in the ground water samples from a few locations (Naseerabad, Kasoda, Adgaon, Lasgaon, Varkhedi-1 & Nimjharia) above the BIS permissible limit for drinking water.

**(b) & (c)** A comparative analysis of groundwater contamination trends has been carried out based on data from previous years vis'-a-vis' the data available in the Ground Water Quality Report 2024. The results for key contaminants such as nitrate, fluoride, and Electrical Conductivity (EC) between 2019 and 2023 indicate that the percentage of samples having EC beyond permissible limit has increased from 6.65% to 7.25%, that of Fluoride has increased from 7.21% to 9.03% and with regard to Nitrate, the proportion has remained constant at 19.8%

Further regarding remedial measures to combat ground water contamination, it is to submit that Water is a state subject and the responsibility of ground water management, including taking initiatives for improving ground water quality and mitigate the contamination issue, lies primarily with the state governments. The Central Government complements the efforts of the States by providing technical support and financial assistance through its various centrally sponsored schemes.

However, the Central Government in this direction has taken several steps in this direction and some of the important ones are regular sharing of ground water quality data available with CGWB through Yearbooks, Half-yearly Bulletins and fortnightly Alerts etc.; Taking up special studies in ground water quality affected areas; Taking up construction of Arsenic safe wells by CGWB in the affected areas using the innovative cement sealing technology; Implementing comprehensive pollution control program by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) by setting industry specific discharge standards, making Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs) mandatory for Industries, Online continuous monitoring of Discharge etc.

Moreover, Government of India in partnership with States, is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) – Har Ghar Jal, since August 2019, to make provision of potable tap water supply in adequate quantity, of prescribed quality and on regular & long-term basis to every rural household in the country, wherein Bureau of Indian Standards' BIS:10500 standards have been adopted as prescribed norms for quality of tap water service delivery.

As a result of all these cumulative efforts, it is reported that from August 2019 to January 2025 the number of Arsenic and Fluoride affected habitations in the country have declined from 14,020 to 314 and from 7,996 to 254 respectively. These remaining habitations have also been provided clean, & safe drinking water through Community Water Purifier Plants (CWPPs).

- (d)** The central government has taken several important steps to ensure large scale community and private sector participation for turning ground water management into a truly peoples' movement. The notable among them are:
- i. The government of India is implementing Atal Bhujal Yojana in 80 water stressed districts across 7 states which has community led sustainable management of ground water resources and demand management as its core theme.
  - ii. Central Ground Water Board organizes various Public Interaction Programs (PIP), Mass Awareness Programs (MAP), Tier II and Tier –III programmes on local ground water issues, including educating the public about the impacts of water contamination and promoting sustainable practices to maintain water quality.
  - iii. Under JJM, with a view to involve community at large and to spread awareness regarding water quality , five persons, preferably women, are identified and trained from every village for testing the water samples through Field Test Kits (FTKs). Thus far, more than 24 lakh women have been trained across the country.
  - iv. The Government is implementing Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA) in the country since 2019 with active community involvement. Jal Shakti Kendras (JSKs) have been set up under Abhiyan in various districts of the country for interacting with local community and dissemination of water related knowledge.
  - v. To further strengthen the momentum of Jal Shakti Abhiyan, Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari: A Community-Driven Path to Water Sustainability in India has been launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on September 6, 2024, in Surat, Gujarat whose main objective is to ensure that every drop of water is conserved through collective efforts, following a whole-of- society and whole-of-government approach.
  - vi. Further, the Ministry of Jal Shakti and its organizations, work with a very large number of Non-Governmental Organizations and academic institutions to promote public awareness and for enhancing water resource management in the country. The Ministry has entered into several MoUs with NGOs working at the grassroots level.
- (e)** A total of 36 nos. of samples were analysed for Palghar district all of which were found to be within the permissible limits set by BIS.
- (f)** CGWB carries out ground water quality monitoring every year throughout Madhya Pradesh including Sidhi Parliamentary Constituency. No such decline with respect to ground water quality was reported in Sidhi Parliamentary Constituency. Further, as per the information available on Jal Jeevan Mission dashboard, no drinking water quality affected habitations have been reported in Sidhi. However, under JJM and other schemes provision of safe tap water for drinking has been made in 90,487 households out of 1.92 lakh households.

\*\*\*\*\*