

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1075

ANSWERED ON:01.03.2000

CONTAMINATED GROUND WATER IN DELHI

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Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per study jointly conducted by the Union Ministry of Water Resources, the Central Ground Water Board and the Central Pollution Control Board, almost fifty per cent of groundwater including that of river Yamuna in National Capital Territory of Delhi is unfit for drinking due to the overall impact of physio chemical contents;

(b) if so, the details of the chemical contents found in the ground water;

(c) the recommendations made by the study team for using the ground water for human consumption; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to implement these recommendations?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) As per study jointly conducted by the Central Ground Water Board and the Central Pollution Control Board using 303 samples from different depths and different areas of NCT of Delhi, 45.5 per cent samples of ground water have been found to be unsuitable for drinking based on physio chemical quality (including heavy metals).

(b) The block wise details of the ground water contaminants are given below :-

Name of the Block	Pollutants exceeding permissible limit
Alipur	Fluoride, Nitrate, Chromium, Iron
Kanjhawala	Fluoride, Nitrate, Lead, Cadmium, Iron
Najafgarh	Fluoride, Nitrate, Cadmium, Lead, Iron
Mehrauli	Chromium, Iron
City	Fluoride, Nitrate, Chromium, Iron
Shahadra	Nitrate, Chromium, Iron

c

(c) The recommendations made by the study team include - registration of ground water extraction structures, testing and chlorination of water, painting the contaminated handpumps and wells in red to warn the public against its use, covering of open wells, laying of proper underground sewage system, monitoring of ground water quality, promotion of roof-top rain water harvesting, revitalisation of natural water bodies, construction of artificial recharge structures and maintaining minimum flow in river Yamuna and organising mass awareness programmes.

(d) The steps taken by the Government include - setting up of Central Ground Water Authority for control and regulation of ground water development and management, registration of ground water extraction structures, monitoring of ground water quality, use of mobile chemical laboratory for analysis of ground water samples, notification of Nazafgarh and Mehrauli blocks in NCT of Delhi to regulate extraction of ground water taking up rain water harvesting pilot projects in NCT of Delhi and organising mass awareness programmes.

Provision for providing safe drinking water is planned, financed and implemented by the State Governments. The Central Ground Water Board provide technical services to the State Governments in this endeavour. Further, the Department of Drinking Water Supply in the Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Urban Development extend financial and technical

support to the State Governments in their efforts to supply safe drinking water, in such areas.