

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:769

ANSWERED ON:28.11.2005

EXPLOITATION OF WATER BY SOFT DRINK COMPANIES

Nayak Smt. Archana

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has any plan/proposal to ban the extensive exploitation of ground water for soft drink products;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the State Governments including Orissa have submitted any memorandum in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in that regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR HEAVY INDUSTRIES, PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV)

(a)&(b) In order to regulate ground water withdrawal by industries including aerated drink manufacturers, Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA), constituted under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, had circulated a list of critical areas to State Pollution Control Boards, Ministry of Environment & Forests etc. which refer proposals of new industries to CGWA for obtaining No Objection Certificate (NOC) before issuing permission. Depending upon the availability of ground water and site specific scientific considerations in such areas, NOC is granted by the CGWA on case to case basis. A pre-condition for such permission is the mandatory adoption of rain water harvesting system for ground water recharge by the industry. Since licensing authority for any industry is the State Government/State agencies/State Pollution Control Board, any action to ban the exploitation of ground water by soft drink companies is to be taken by them.

(c)&(d) No memorandum for banning the exploitation of ground water for soft drink products has been received in the Ministry of Water Resources/CGWB from the State Governments including that of Orissa.