

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1003
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2010
CONTAMINATION OF GROUND WATER
Sivasami Shri C.

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that ground water in various parts including villages across Tamil Nadu is found to be contaminated with Nitrates, Fluoride and other health hazard substances as per the samples collected from 1.5 lakh hand pumps in the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Union Government to safeguard the underground water in the country including Tamil Nadu?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA)

(a) & (b) The Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board (TWAD) have analyzed ground water samples collected from 1.5 Lakh hand pumps in State. The study reveals that the districts of dharmapuri, Krishnagiri, Erode, Salem, Vellore and Virudhunagar have the incidence of Fluroride and Nitrate in Ground water.

Following action have been taken by the Government to safeguard the underground water in the country including Tamil Nadu:

(i) The State Government have initiated several measures like provision of alternate source of water supply, fluorosis mitigation projects, construction of rainwater harvesting structures, artificial recharge structures etc.

(ii) Ministry of Urban Development assists the States with central assistance under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission and Urban infrastructure Development Scheme for Small & Medium Towns (UIDSSMT).

(iii) Central Pollution Control Board has monitored ground water quality in metro cities of the country with includes Chennai, Coimbatore and Madurai cities of Tamil Nadu.