

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:380

ANSWERED ON:21.04.2010

CONSERVATION OF WATER RESOURCES

Rama Devi Smt. ;Singh Alias Pappu Singh Shri Uday

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 60 percent of the irrigation water and 80 percent of drinking water requirement in the country is met from the ground water resources;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a study released by the World Bank has suggested community based approach to ground water resources and thereby raise the income of farmers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the corrective measures taken by the Government for augmentation of various water resources and its proper utilisation to check the depleting ground water?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. 380 TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.04.2010 IN LOK SABHA REGARDING 'CONSERVATION OF WATER RESOURCES'

(a) & (b) As per the information provided by the States, about 45% of the irrigation potential created is through ground water resources and about 85% of the rural drinking water requirement has been assessed to be met from ground water resources.

(c) & (d) The World Bank in its report titled "Deep Wells and Prudence: Towards Pragmatic Action for Addressing Groundwater Overexploitation in India" has inter-alia, suggested enabling and nurturing of community-based ground water management. National Water Policy of India also envisages that "Management of the water resources for diverse uses should incorporate a participatory approach, by involving not only the various governmental agencies but also the users and other stakeholders such as water users' associations, municipalities and gram panchayats, in an effective and decisive manner in various aspects of planning, design, development and management of the water resources schemes".

(e) In order to promote augmentation of water resources and their proper utilization as well as checking of the depletion in the ground water level, the Government of India has initiated several measures such as the schemes for "repair, renovation and restoration of water bodies", "artificial recharge of ground water through dugwells", "demonstrative projects for artificial recharge to ground water and circulation of a model bill for regulation and control the development and management of ground water.

The Central Ground Water Authority, constituted by the Govt of India, has 'notified' 43 areas in 10 States /UTs for regulation of ground water development.