

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5790
ANSWERED ON:08.09.2011
WITHDRAWAL OF GROUNDWATER
Singh Chaudhary Lal

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of withdrawal of ground water for irrigation, domestic and industrial use; and
- (b) the time by which the Government proposes to pass the Model Groundwater Use Bill to prevent exploitation of groundwater?

Answer

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

(a) As per last assessment of replenishable ground water resources carried out jointly by Central Ground Water Board and State Ground Water Organizations, annual ground water withdrawal as on 2004 for all uses is estimated as 231 bcm per year, out of which withdrawal for irrigation is 213 bcm and that for domestic and industrial purposes together is 18 bcm.

(b) Ministry of Water Resources has circulated the Model Bill to the States & Union Territories to regulate and control the development of ground water. So far 11 States and Union Territories namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Chandigarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Lakshadweep and Puducherry have enacted ground water legislation. 19 States/UTs are in the process of enactment of legislation. Remaining States/UTs have also been requested to enact similar legislation. 'Water' is a State subject therefore, States are primarily responsible for enactment of the model bill.