

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2546  
ANSWERED ON:29.03.2012  
GROUNDWATER USE IN RURAL AREAS  
Reddy Shri Magunta Srinivasulu

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted surveys on ground water use in rural areas especially in remote and far flung areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the experts` views in this regard; and
- (d) the action plan prepared by the Government for usage of safe ground water in the said areas during the XII Five Year Plan?

**Answer**

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

- (a) Central Ground Water Board and State Ground Water Organizations jointly carry out periodic assessment of replenishable ground water resources and their withdrawal in the country covering rural areas including remote and far flung areas.
- (b) As per latest assessment of ground water resources (as on 2009), stage of ground water development in the country has been estimated as 61%. Previous assessment of ground water resources was carried out as on 2004, when stage of ground water development in the country was estimated as 58%. State wise details of ground water resource assessment during 2004 and 2009 are given in Annexure I.
- (c) Government of India has constituted a Central Level Expert Group for overall supervision of the reassessment of ground water resources in the entire country. The expert group has vetted the reassessment of ground water resources and status of their utilization (as on 2009).
- (d) During XII Five Year Plan, Ministry of Water Resources has formulated Aquifer Management Plan to facilitate sustainable management of ground water resources and participatory ground water management. This will help in generation of integrated database on aquifer geometry, hydraulic and geochemical characteristics recharge and discharge potential of aquifer systems, etc. in GIS environment, better understanding of ground water flow system under different conditions, identification of areas feasible for ground water development, rainwater harvesting and ground water recharge, etc.