

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4579  
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2012  
GROUNDWATER FRAMEWORK  
Kumar Shri P.

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering to bring in strictes rules with regard to utilisation of groundwater;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is considering to make a broad legal framework on groundwater; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d) Water being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to regulate ground water resources. Ministry of Water Resources has circulated to the States/ Union Territories the Model Bill to Regulate and Control the Development and Management of Ground Water to enable them to enact suitable ground water legislation. So far eleven States/ UTs namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Chandigarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Lakshadweep and Puducherry have enacted ground water legislation. Government of Delhi is regulating ground water development in all the districts of Delhi. Government of Gujarat through a resolution vide reference No. GWR/1095/6/1.1/ Ja-1 dated 19.9.2001 has constituted Gujarat Ground Water Authority under the administrative control of Narmada and Water Resources Authority for systematic administration of ground water management, its development, control and regulation. Government of Punjab has taken steps to encourage crop diversification, artificial recharge of ground water, controlled and regulated electricity supply in critical area, micro-irrigation and alteration of crop calendar – encouraging late sowing of paddy after 16th June, etc.