

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:412
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2012
EFFECTS OF DEFORESTATION OF WATER LEVEL
Sayeed Muhammed Hamdulla A. B.

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to removal of forests, the level of the water is going down there by posing a major problem causing shortage of drinking water; and

(b) if so, the preventive and corrective action taken by the Government therefor?

Answer

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

(a) Deforestation i.e. removal of forests, causes reduced recharge in ground water, resulting into lowering of ground water table in cases where abstraction is more than the recharge. This may cause shortage of drinking water on sustainable basis.

(b) Government of India has launched National Mission for a Green India as a part of National Action Plan on Climate Change, inter alia, to increase forest/ tree cover on 5 million hectare lands and improved quality of forest cover on another 5 million hectare lands in the next 10 years coinciding with the Twelfth and Thirteenth five year plan periods.