

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2072

ANSWERED ON:06.12.2012

EXTRACTION OF GROUNDWATER

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Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any study on the adverse impact of excessive extraction of water in view of the increasing consumption of mineral water in the country;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has fixed any norms for extraction of water by mineral water plants;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether these plants are following these norms; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) The adverse impact of excessive extraction of ground water in various parts of the country is mainly due to irrigation, as agriculture sector is the largest user of ground water. However, no study has been conducted on adverse impact of excessive extraction of water in view of increasing consumption of mineral water.

(b) Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has fixed norms for withdrawal of ground water by industries using water as raw material including mineral water industries.

(c) Norms fixed by CGWA for extraction of ground water are below:

Category of area as per ground water resource assessment (2009)

Safe Withdrawal limited to 200% of ground water recharge

Semi-critical Withdrawal limited to 100% of ground water recharge

Critical Withdrawal limited to 50% of ground water recharge

Over-exploited Permission is not granted.

(d) & (e) Random inspections of the industries indicate that they are complying with the conditions laid down in the 'No Objection Certificate', such as limiting withdrawals to the prescribed limit, artificial recharge to augment ground water resources, ground water quality and water level monitoring and recycling / reuse of water.