

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2798
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2013
GROUND WATER USE IN RURAL AREAS
Reddy Shri Modugula Venugopala

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 backward 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 for the backward areas in using safe ground water in the 12th Five Year Plan?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

- (a) Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under the Ministry of Water Resources and State Government Ground Water Organizations, jointly carry out periodic assessment of replenishable ground water resources and their withdrawal in the country covering rural areas including backward 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%. State wise details of ground water resource assessment during 2004 and 2009 are given in Annexure.
- (c) Central Government has constituted an Expert Group for overall supervision of the reassessment of ground water resources in the country including backward areas. The Expert Group has vetted the reassessment of ground water resources and status of their utilization (as on 2009).
- (d) During XIth Five Year Plan, Ministry of Water Resources has proposed 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 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.