

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2890

ANSWERED ON:14.03.2013

MAPPING OF AQUIFERS

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Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Central Ground Water Board has taken up pilot projects on aquifer mapping during the current Five Year Plan period and if so, the details in this regard;
- (b) the details of the States included in the pilot projects along with the criteria fixed for selection of States for the said purpose;
- (c) whether the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has signed any contract with Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) to implement the pilot projects and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of the terms of reference of the said contract; and
- (e) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b) During 2012-13, Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under Ministry of Water Resources has undertaken Pilot Project on aquifer mapping in 6 areas in the States of Maharashtra (part of Nagpur district), Rajasthan (part of Dausa and Jaisalmer districts), Bihar (part of Patna district), Karnataka (part of Tumkur district) and Tamil Nadu (part of Cuddalore district). The project involves Heliborne Transient Electromagnetic techniques along with other advanced geophysical techniques to test the efficacy of technologies in mapping in aquifers in different hydro-geological terrain. The criteria for selection of aforementioned six areas is based on different hydro-geological terrains in the country.

(c) & (d) CGWB has signed contract/MoU with National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI), a Council of Scientific and Industrial Research Institute, to take up advanced geophysical techniques including Heliborne Transient Electromagnetic techniques for aquifer mapping in six areas of the Pilot Project. The major terms of reference of the contract include, generate data by applying geophysical techniques for the six pilot areas identified in five States, integrate hydrogeological and geophysical data for delineation of subsurface disposition of aquifers, establish the efficacy of various geophysical techniques under different hydrogeological conditions and develop a protocol for aquifer mapping in different hydrogeological terrains for scale up and train the client's personnel in the use of advanced geophysical techniques and interpretation of data in aquifer mapping.

(e) The scheduled date of completion of the project is August, 2013.