

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4055
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2013
USE OF GROUND WATER BY INDUSTRY
Rajaram Shri Wakchaure Bhausahb

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of mineral water and soft drink bottling plants functioning in the country along with the State/UT-wise details thereof;
- (b) the number of plants out of these granted approval by the Central Ground Water Board or any authority of Union or State Governments;
- (c) the quantum of ground water utilized by these plants during the last three years and whether it is free of cost;
- (d) if so, the measures taken by the Government to check excessive use of water resources by them; and
- (e) whether the Government proposes to determine any charges keeping in view its commercial use and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b) As per information received from the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), there are 3439 BIS licensed Packaged Natural Mineral Water, and Packaged Drinking Water units in the Country. The State/UT-wise details are given in Annexure-I. Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) under the Ministry of Water Resources has issued 164 'No Objection Certificates' (NOCs) to mineral water, packaged water and soft drink bottling plants. Out of these, 137 'NOCs' have been granted by CGWA during the period 2009-10 to 2012-13 (upto 31.01.2013), the details of which are given at Annexure-II. Besides, the State Ground Water Authority/ Agencies have granted permission to 219 such industries which use ground water as raw material.

(c) CGWA has issued NOC for withdrawal of ground water per year to the tune of 4,37,603 cubic meter, 12,14,613 cubic meter, 13,06,499 cubic meter and 19,16,154 cubic meter for the year 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 (till 31.01.2013) respectively. The State-wise details are given in Annexure-II. CGWA does not charge any fee for ground water withdrawal. Data regarding utilization of ground water is not maintained by CGWA.

(d) Norms fixed for abstraction of ground water by industries including for mineral water plants using water as raw material are as under:

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

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 and Notified Areas Permission is not granted.

Under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, Deputy Commissioners/ District Collectors concerned have been authorized to take necessary action in case of violations of directives of CGWA in the notified areas. In addition, random inspections by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) under the Ministry of Water Resources are carried out to check that the industries using ground water as raw material are complying with the conditions laid down in the NOC granted to such industries by CGWA.

(e) Union Government does not levy any cess on use of ground water. However, as per Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1978, cess, if any, on such industries is levied by the respective State Governments.