

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2903
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2013
STUDY BY NGRI
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Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI) has said that the groundwater in many cities in the country is declining at a rapid pace;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government is considering to take some vigorous steps to prevent over exploitation of groundwater; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b) National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI), Hyderabad has informed that one of their Scientist, in an interview with a Reporter of The Times of India, had stated that "ground water level in Hyderabad is declining at a rapid pace and more or less similar situation is prevailing in many big cities like New Delhi, Mumbai".

(c) & (d) A Model Bill has been circulated to all the States / UTs to enable them to enact ground water legislation for its regulation and development. Besides, Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has issued advisories to Chief Secretaries of States and Administrators of UTs having over-exploited blocks so as to take measures to promote / adopt artificial recharge to ground water / rainwater harvesting. CGWA has also taken up with various Central and State Government organizations for adopting rainwater harvesting and recharge to the ground water.