

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2262
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2013
SURVEY ON GROUNDWATER UTILISATION
Singh Shri Bhola

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any survey on groundwater utilisation in the rural areas of backward States like Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha etc.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years;
- (c) the opinion of experts in this regard; and
- (d) the details of the action plan formulated for the backward areas for the safe utilisation of groundwater for the 12th Five Year Plan?

Answer

THE MINISTER FOR WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) to (c) Central Ground Water Board under the Ministry of Water Resources carries out periodic assessment of replenishable ground water resources jointly with the respective State Governments in the Country including rural areas of backward States like Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha etc. As per the latest assessment of ground water resources (as on 2009), the total annual replenishable ground water resource of the Country is 431 Billion Cubic Metres (BCM), of which annual utilizable ground water resource is 396 BCM. Out of 396 BCM annual utilizable ground water resources, about 243 BCM is utilized through ground water withdrawal for various purposes. The stage of ground water development in the Country is 61%. State-wise details are given in Annexure.

A Central Level Expert Group has been constituted by Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India for over-all supervision of the re-assessment of ground water resources in the Country. The Expert Group approved the latest report on Dynamic Ground Water Resources of India (As on 31st March, 2009).

(d) The Central Scheme of Ground Water Management and Regulation, under implementation during XII Plan, inter-alia, envisages participatory management of groundwater involving Panchayat Raj Institutions, local communities, NGOs and other stakeholders for ensuring safe and sustainable management of groundwater resources in the Country including backward areas.