

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3019  
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2013  
EXPLOITATION OF GROUNDWATER  
Siddeswara Shri Gowdar Mallikarjunappa

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:**

(a) the percentage of water used for irrigating agricultural fields and to meet the requirements of rural and urban drinking water supply which is currently extracted from groundwater in the State of Karnataka; and

(b) the steps being taken to preserve groundwater in the State?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER FOR WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) under the Ministry of Water Resources and State Ground Water Organizations have jointly estimated replenishable ground water resources of the Country, including the State of Karnataka. As per the latest assessment (as on March 2009) of replenishable ground water resources, the total annual ground water availability of Karnataka have been estimated as 14.81 Billion Cubic Meters (BCM). Out of total annual groundwater availability, withdrawal for irrigation is 9.01 BCM (60.83% of total annual ground water availability) and 1.00 BCM (6.75% of total annual groundwater availability) withdrawal of groundwater is for industrial and domestic purposes in Karnataka.

(b) The Government of Karnataka has informed that they have enacted Karnataka Groundwater (Regulation and Control of Development) Act, 2011 and Rules, 2012. Based on the Act, Karnataka Groundwater Authority has come into existence from 16.03.2012. The Authority has provision for District Sub-Committees to enforce ground water regulation. Registration of existing users, permission to extract ground water and registration of drilling agencies in notified area have been made mandatory. Besides, rainwater harvesting is made compulsory with effect from 27.8.2009 for every owner who proposes to construct a new building on site area of 1200 sq ft. and above in Bangalore urban areas by Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board through Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Amendment Act, 2009. Central Government also promotes water conservation measures in the Country by supplementing efforts of State Governments for augmentation, conservation and efficient management of water resources by way of technical and financial support through various schemes, such as Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme; Command Area Development and Water Management; Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies etc for conservation of water resources in the country.