

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:110

ANSWERED ON:12.12.2013

DEPLETION OF GROUNDWATER RESOURCES

Das Shri Ram Sundar;Ponnam Shri Prabhakar

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the groundwater resources are getting depleted in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh as a result of agricultural activities in these States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the present status of groundwater in these States in comparison to the groundwater availability during the last three years; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.110 TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.12.2013 IN LOK SABHA REGARDING "DEPLETION OF GROUNDWATER RESOURCES"ASKED BY SHRI RAM SUNDAR DAS AND SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR, HON'BLE M.P's, LOK SABHA:

(a) & (b) Yes, Madma. It is true that the ground water is depleting in some parts of the Country because of increasing use in agriculture activities. Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) carries out periodic assessment of replenishable ground water resources jointly with the concerned State Governments. The last two ground water resource assessments had taken place in 2004 and 2009. Ground Water Draft for irrigation has increased in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar over the years whereas it has reduced between 2004 and 2009 in the State of Andhra Pradesh. Comparative analysis of two assessments made in the years 2004 & 2009 reveals that annual groundwater withdrawal for irrigation has decreased from 13.88 Billion Cubic Metres (BCM) to 12.61 BCM in Andhra Pradesh, increased in Bihar & Uttar Pradesh from 9.39 BCM to 9.79 BCM and from 45.36 BCM to 45.99 BCM respectively. The net annual ground water availability has reduced from 32.95 BCM to 30.76 BCM in Andhra Pradesh, 27.42 BCM to 26.21 BCM in Bihar and 70.18 BCM to 68.57 BCM in Uttar Pradesh.

(c) Government of India 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.