

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:239
ANSWERED ON:06.02.2014
CONSERVATION OF GROUND WATER
Kumar Shri Kaushalendra

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether all the States/UTs have enacted laws on the basis of Model Bill circulated by the Government for regulation, Development and conservation of ground water;
- (b) If so, the details thereof, State/UTwise;
- (c) Whether the Central Ground Water Board has prepared Master Plan for artificial recharge of ground water and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) Whether the National Green Tribunal has expressed concern over the illegal exploitation of ground water in one or more of its judgements; and
- (e) If so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE AND WATER RESOURCES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.239 TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2014 IN LOK SABHA REGARDING "CONSERVATION OF GROUND WATER" ASKED BY SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMER, HON'BLE M.P, LOK SABHA:

(a) to (e) Ministry of Water Resources circulated a Model Bill to all the States/Union Territories to regulate and control development and management of ground water. So far, fourteen (14) States / UTs namely Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Tamil Nadu, Lakshadweep, Kerala, Puducherry, West Bengal, Himachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chandigarh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Assam, Dadra and Nagar Haveli have modified the Model Bill as per their requirement and enacted the legislation. Besides, Government of Maharashtra has enacted Maharashtra Ground Water (Regulation for Drinking Water Purposes), Act 1993. Government of Maharashtra has also introduced and passed a comprehensive Ground Water Bill in the Legislative Assembly to regulate and manage ground water resources in the State. Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) under the Ministry of Water Resources has prepared a conceptual document called "Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water in India" which envisages construction of different types of Artificial Recharge and Rainwater Harvesting structures in the Country by harnessing surplus monsoon runoff to augment ground water resources. In compliance of the National Green Tribunal's Order dated 11.01.2013, Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) constituted under Section 3(3) of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, issued a Public Notice on 16th January 2013 restraining all the builders in NOIDA and Greater NOIDA from extracting any quantity of underground water for the purpose of construction or otherwise till the stay is vacated by National Green Tribunal or further orders, whichever is earlier. Further, CGWA has also directed District Magistrate, GautamBudh Nagar; Member Secretary, Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board, Lucknow; Chairman, Greater NOIDA; Chairman, NOIDA and Regional Officer, Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board, GautamBudh Nagar to ensure that the orders of Hon'ble Tribunal are implemented with immediate effect.