

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:555
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2015
GROUND WATER ASSESSMENT
Khan Shri Md. Badariddoza

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has carried out any ground water resources assessment recently, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has formulated any special programme for West Bengal after the assessment, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION
(PROF.SANWAR LAL JAT)

(a) Central Ground Water Board(CGWB) under the Ministry of Water Resources, RD & GR carries out periodic assessment of replenishable ground water resources every 2 years jointly with the respective State Ground Water Departments. As per the latest assessment (2011), the total annual replenishable ground water resource of the Country is around 433 Billion Cubic Metres (BCM) and net annual ground water availability is 398 BCM. Out of 6607 assessment units (Blocks/ Mandals/ Talukas/ Districts) in the Country, 1071 units falling in 16 States and 2 UTs have been categorized as 'Over-exploited' where the annual ground water extraction exceeds the net annual ground water availability and significant decline in long term ground water level trend has been observed either in pre- monsoon or post-monsoon or both. The stage of ground water development in the country is 62%. State/UT-wise details are given at Annexure.

(b) The purpose of assessment of Ground Water resources is to ensure judicious management of ground water resources. As a step for better management of ground water, Aquifer Mapping and Management programme has been taken up during XII Plan, wherein, information on aquifer-wise ground water quality, extent of contamination and suitability of ground water for various purposes is one of the components. In the State of West Bengal, an area of 14378 sq.km has been taken up under the programme.

(c) In view of reply to Part(b), question does not arise.