

Sixteenth Lok Sabha

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Title: Need to take steps regarding depletion of ground water

DR. TAPAS MANDAL (RANAGHAT): Ground water depletion is a serious problem in India. Over the years, there has been a tremendous increase in pressure on ground water reserves in India. The rate at which the ground water is recharged is much lesser than the rate at which humans extract the ground water. NASA has declared the Indus Basin as the second most overstressed aquifer in this world. The researchers anticipate that the annual crop production would decrease by almost 25 per cent if the situation remains unchecked.

Researchers also pointed out that India is the largest extractor of the ground water. It extracts 25 per cent of the ground water as compared to the extracted ground water globally. There is an urgent need to address this problem. India needs to take ground water management more seriously and focus must be on efficiency of irrigation and growing crops which are not water intensive.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Pushpendra Singh Chandel is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Tapas Mandal.