

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 723
ANSWERED ON 21.11.2019

GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT

723. SHRIMATI S. JOTHIMANI

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Ground Water Authority under the Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation has issued any guidelines or framework related to governing of ground water management in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has entered into any collaborations with private/foreign entities on ground water management projects; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with their current status of implementation?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI & SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA)

(a) to (d) Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has been constituted under Section 3(3) of the 'Environment (Protection) Act, 1986' for the purpose of regulation and control of ground water development and management in the Country. CGWA is regulating ground water withdrawal by industries / infrastructure/ mining projects in the country for which guidelines/ criteria have been framed, which are modified from time to time. The current guidelines, effective from 15.11.2015 are available on the website <http://cgwa-noc.gov.in>.

Further, CGWA had notified fresh guidelines for development and management of ground water resources in the country vide Gazette Notification SO 6140(E) dated 12.12.2018. However, Hon'ble National Green Tribunal vide its order dated 03.01.2019 has directed that the notified guidelines may not be given effect to.

Central Ground Water Board has prepared "Empowering Village Communities for A Sustainable Water Future: A Resource Book for village level para-hydrogeologists" jointly with MARVI (Managing Aquifer Recharge and Sustaining Groundwater Use through Village-level Intervention) partners which, inter-alia, include Western Sydney University, Australia, CSIRO Land & Water, Australia, Arid Communities and Technologies, Bhuj and Development Support Center, Ahmedabad. This is a step which is likely to help facilitate participation of village communities in ground water resource management, ensuring a sustainable water future.
