

Regarding increasing contamination of groundwater in Bengaluru Urban, Karnataka- Laid

SHRI P. C. MOHAN (BANGALORE CENTRAL): I express serious concern over the increasing groundwater contamination in Bengaluru Urban, posing grave risks to public health and water security. As per the Annual Groundwater Quality Report 2024 by the Central Ground Water Board, over 45% of shallow wells in the district show nitrate levels up to 400 mg/L—nine times the permissible limit. Fluoride and heavy metals have also been detected, likely from untreated industrial discharge. The contamination stems from: Unregulated sewage seepage, Industrial effluents released without treatment, and over-extraction limiting aquifer recharge. This is a silent public health emergency, linked to rising waterborne illnesses, kidney ailments, and developmental issues in children. I urge the Hon'ble Minister of Jal Shakti to 1. declare affected zones as 'Pollution Control Priority Zones'; 2. mandate real-time groundwater monitoring; 3. fund aquifer rejuvenation under AMRUT 2.0 and Jal Shakti Abhiyan; 4. support decentralised sewage treatment in urban and semi urban areas; and 5. launch a National Groundwater Quality Action Plan for Tier-1 cities like Bengaluru. We must act now because contaminated groundwater cannot be reversed easily. Bengaluru's future depends on decisive and science-backed intervention today. I request the Centre's urgent support to safeguard the health of millions and protect our water resources.