

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:18  
ANSWERED ON:05.07.2004  
CONTAMINATED GROUND WATER  
Nikhil Kumar Shri

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is aware that ground water is highly contaminated in various parts of the country;
- (b) if so, whether the excess of Nitrates and Fluorides are causing such contamination;
- (c) if so, whether the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has taken any concrete measures to prevent the same; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI)

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY OF PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.18 FOR REPLY ON 05.07.2004 REGARDING CONTAMINATED GROUND WATER

As per studies carried out by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under the Ministry of Water Resources, ground water in major parts of the country is by and large potable. However, ground water has been found contaminated in some parts of the country. The excess of Nitrates and Fluorides have also been observed in localized pockets in various parts of the country.

Water being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to take measures to prevent contamination of ground water. The Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has been constituted under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to regulate indiscriminate boring and withdrawal of ground water. However, the CGWB monitors the ground water quality periodically to map the changes in it and appraises the State Governments of the same for taking necessary remedial measures.