

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 514
ANSWERED ON 07/12/2023

IDENTIFICATION OF BRACKISH WATER IN THE COUNTRY

514. SHRI SANT BALBIR SINGH:

Will the Minister of **EARTH SCIENCES** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has planned any policy to promote desalination of brackish water;
- (b) whether Government proposes any foreign aid or research to set up desalination plants in the areas as required and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has any mechanism to monitor or identify brackish water areas; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the areas identified in the State of Punjab along with the initiatives taken by Government to improve the quality of ground water in those area?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES
(SHRI KIREN RIJU)

- (a) No Sir.
- (b) No Sir.
- (c) & (d) Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) generates ground water quality data on a regional scale during various scientific studies and periodical ground water quality monitoring throughout the country. Salinity (Electrical Conductivity) more than 3000 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ have been reported in parts of a total of 12 districts of State of Punjab namely Bhatinda, Faridkot, Fazilka, Ferozpur, Gurdaspur, Ludhiana, Mansa, Moga, Muktsar, Patiala, Sangrur and SAS Nagar. Water being a State Subject, initiatives on its quality is primarily States' responsibility. The data on ground water quality generated by CGWB are being shared with respective State government for policy-making and implementation of suitable measures.
