

PART 2 : GROUND WATER

DEPLETION OF WATER:

We have seen earlier that the underground gets replenished by seepage of rainwater.

The water table does not get affected as long as we draw as much water as is replenished by the natural process.

However, water table may go down if the water is not sufficiently replenished.

This may happen due to many reasons.

1. Increase in population

As the population grows, there is an increase in the water consumption for their basic needs.

2. Increase in industrial activity

Water is used by all the industries. Almost everything that we use needs water somewhere in its production process. The number of industries is increasing continuously. Water used by most of these industries is drawn from the ground.

3. Construction work

At the construction site, bore wells are dug to facilitate faster construction process.

4. Agricultural Activities

A majority of farmers in India depend upon rains for irrigating their crops. Irrigation systems such as canals are there only in a few places. Even these systems may suffer

from lack of water due to erratic rainfall. Therefore, farmers have to use groundwater for irrigation.

5. "DEFORESTATION"

Cutting down trees for human needs and space of occupancy has resulted in scanty rainfall due to which there is depletion in the water table.

Due to deforestation there is decrease in the effective area for seepage of water.

DISTRIBUTION OF WATER:

The distribution of water over the globe is quite uneven due to a number of factors.

You must have watched this on TV that some places are drowned in water while others places are dry.

Some places have good amount of rain and are water-rich.

On the other hand, there are deserts which have scanty rainfall.

