ASSESSMENT AND STRATEGIES FOR DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL OF DEEPER CONFINED AQUIFERS IN INDIA

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ABSTRACT

The annual replenishable groundwater resources of India have been estimated as 431 BCM. In addition to the annual replenishable groundwater resources in the active recharge zone, there exists a huge groundwater resource in the deeper parts of the unconfined aquifers and also in the deeper confined aquifers in the areas covered by alluvial sediments. There is a need for effective exploration, development and management of water stored in deep aquifers. While the volume of water stored in them is large, it must be used wisely, for its renewal through surface infiltration is low or non-existent. This article presents general groundwater scenario in India and methodology for assessment of development potential of deeper confined aquifers.