

Depletion of Water Table



The gradual and continuous lowering of the water table is known as the depletion of the water table. It goes down if the groundwater is being used at a faster rate than it is being renewed by the natural processes.



The following are the factors that affect the depletion of the water table:

1. Increasing Population: To meet the needs of an ever-increasing human population, more houses, offices, schools, shops, roads are being constructed, reducing the open space for seepage of rainwater into the ground. Secondly, boring is done to draw more and more groundwater.

2. Increasing Industries: Every industry requires water in its production process. As a number of industries increases, more water is drawn from the ground. All of this result in depletion of the water table.

3. Agricultural Activities: In case of no or low rainfall, farmers use groundwater to irrigate their land for agriculture. This depletes the water table over the years.

4. Deforestation: We know that plants and trees keep the soil bounded together and allow absorption of water in the soil. Uprooting them exposes the first layer of the soil which can get washed away easily. This affects the water table of that region.

5. Low Rainfall: In places where there is low or scanty rainfall the underground water table is generally low.