

Contamination of drinking water in the country

4192. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV : Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether excessive quantity of arsenic and other chemicals have been found in drinking water in various parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether some cases of adverse effects on health due to presence of such chemicals in drinking water have also been reported in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, during last two years till date, State-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government to check such health hazards and to provide safe drinking water in the country?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) to (d) As reported by the States into the online IMIS (Integrated Management Information System) developed by the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation as on 01.04.2012 there are 99,380 lakh habitations with one or more of their drinking water sources contaminated with excess arsenic, fluoride, iron, salinity or nitrates, which are yet to be provided with safe drinking water. Statewise and contamination-wise break up of these habitations is given in Statement. (*See below*) Prolonged use of water contaminated with arsenic may cause arsenicosis while prolonged use of fluoride may cause fluorosis which have adverse effect on bones and teeth especially in children.

(e) Rural water supply is a State subject. This Ministry supplements the efforts of the States by providing them with technical and financial assistance under the centrally sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) for providing safe drinking water facilities in rural areas of the country. A budgetary allocation of Rs. 10,500 crore has been made for the NRDWP in 2012-13. Up to 62 per cent of the NRDWP funds allocated to States can be utilized for tackling water quality problems in rural areas of the country. In addition to this, Government of India provides 3 per cent NRDWP funds on 100 per cent central assistance basis to States for water quality monitoring and surveillance, which *inter alia* includes taking up works relating to setting up of new or upgradation of district/sub-district water quality testing laboratories, providing chemicals and consumables to laboratories, hiring of trained manpower for the laboratories, providing field test kits/refills to Gram Panchayats and certain administrative expenses. Further, up to 20 per cent of NRDWP funds allocated to States could be utilized for sustainability of drinking water sources through artificial recharge of ground water and other methods, which *inter alia* may also dilute the level of contamination in aquifers.

Statement*Contamination wise Status as on 1/4/2012 of habitations remaining to be covered*

Sl. No.	State	Total	Arsenic	Fluoride	Iron	Salinity	Nitrate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	396	0	332	0	64	0
2	Bihar	14478	942	2653	10883	0	0
3	Chhattisgarh	6305	0	132	6057	116	0
4	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Gujarat	1	0	1	0	0	0
6	Haryana	10	0	8	0	2	0
7	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	Jammu and Kashmir	25	0	2	1	22	0
9	Jharkhand	393	1	38	353	0	1
10	Karnataka	6104	36	2470	1574	658	1366
11	Kerala	914	0	108	576	186	44
12	Madhya Pradesh	2418	0	2236	3	178	1
13	Maharashtra	1521	0	489	313	293	426
14	Orissa	13267	0	384	11867	994	22
15	Punjab	45	0	19	2	24	0
16	Rajasthan	27849	5	7478	46	19244	1076
17	Tamil Nadu	432	0	3	399	28	2
18	Uttar Pradesh	404	9	144	23	227	1
19	Uttarakhand	14	0	1	11	0	2
20	West Bengal	3981	1330	822	1336	493	0
21	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0
22	Assam	15230	1158	80	13992	0	0
23	Manipur	2	0	0	2	0	0
24	Meghalaya	98	0	0	98	0	0
25	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
26	Nagaland	130	0	0	130	0	0
27	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0
28	Tripura	5363	0	0	5363	0	0
29	Andaman and Nicobar	0	0	0	0	0	0
30	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0
31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0
32	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0
33	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
34	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL		99380	3481	17400	53029	22529	2941

Working group on rural domestic water and sanitation

4193. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO : Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission had set up a Working Group on Rural Domestic Water and Sanitation to prepare a report, reviewing and making recommendations in these sectors;
- (b) if so, whether the report has been presented;
- (c) if so, the observations and recommendations made therein; and
- (d) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Planning Commission had set a Working Group on Rural Domestic Water & Sanitation to prepare a Report reviewing and making recommendations in the Sectors for the formulation of the XIIth Five Year Plan. The Working Group has since submitted its report to the Planning Commission.

(c) The main recommendations in the Report pertaining to rural domestic water and sanitation are:

Rural Water:

1. The vision for rural domestic water supply should be to cover all rural households with safe piped drinking water supply *at 55 lpcd for the 12th FYP.*