

A menu of technological options is available. As per these technologies, the human excreta is converted into harmless product/manure. A minimum safe distance between toilets and drinking water source is also prescribed for various technologies.

The States are free to choose the technology most appropriate to them, depending on their specific conditions.

Providing safe drinking water to villages

2413. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in the country and how many of them do not have pure drinking water facility;

(b) how many villages in the country are affected with high arsenic levels in drinking water;

(c) whether the presence of more than 0.05 milligrams of arsenic in one litre of water affects the cardio vascular system in children apart from causing skin irritation and posing the risk of lung cancer; and

(d) if so, the measures taken or proposed to be taken to provide pure and safe drinking water to all the villages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) As reported by the State Governments into the online Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of the Ministry, as on 15.12.2015, there are 63,378 rural habitations affected with water quality problems like excess arsenic, fluoride, iron, salinity or nitrate in one or more rural drinking water sources. The total population at risk as on 15.12.2015 is 3.6 crore.

(b) As reported by State into the IMIS, as on 15/12/2015, there are 1,318 arsenic affected rural habitations in the country, which are yet to be provided with safe drinking water.

(c) As per Bureau of Indian Standards IS 10500-2012, the permissible limit of arsenic in drinking water is 0.05 milligram per litre. Due to prolonged consumption of excess arsenic in drinking water, dermal changes are characterized including in children by increased pigmentation and hardening of the skin, that is a combination of melanosis and keratosis. The most common sequence is the gradual development of spotted or "raindrop pigmentation", followed by the gradual emergence of hyperkeratotic changes. If not detected and prevented in the early stages, these manifestations may lead to cancer.

(d) The Ministry has advised all the States to commission piped water supply schemes preferably from safe surface water sources as a long term sustainable solution. Since such projects take certain time, the Ministry has suggested the States to install community water purification plants especially in arsenic and fluoride affected habitations, so as to provide 8-10 litres per capita per day of safe drinking water for drinking and cooking purposes, quickly.

Safe drinking water to villages

2414. SHRI SHANKARBHAI N. VEGAD: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in the country which do not have drinking water facilities, State-wise;

(b) what steps Government proposes to take to provide the same to all such villages; and

(c) whether Government has fixed any time-limit therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) Ministry maintains data regarding coverage of habitations with drinking water supply in rural areas of the country in terms of habitations and not in terms of villages. As reported by States/UTs into the online Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) there are no habitations without drinking water facilities. However, there are 63071 habitations in the country as on date where one or more of drinking water sources is contaminated by chemical contaminants like arsenic, fluoride, iron, nitrate and salinity. Some of the rural population inhabiting these areas are not getting clean drinking water. The State-wise/UT-wise details of partially covered habitations *i.e.* habitations with service delivery of less than 40 liter per capita per day (LPCD) and details of the habitations which are quality affected are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) As rural drinking water supply is a State subject, the State Governments are vested with powers to select, plan, approve and implement drinking water supply schemes. Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation through National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) supplements the efforts of States to provide drinking water to rural population by providing technical and financial assistance. States have been asked to prioritise for coverage of quality affected habitations and then partially covered habitations. States have been advised to go for surface source based piped water supply schemes to preserve ground water and avoid slippage.