

Enterprises for manufacturing defence requirements

†498. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new enterprises that have been established for manufacturing of the defence requirements in the country itself and whether any contract has been signed with any private players for the same; and

(b) the number of enterprises related to defence sector that were functional before 2014 along with the number of enterprises that are functional at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) and (b) After the opening up of the Defence industry sector in May, 2001 for manufacturing by Indian Private sector subject to licensing, 379 licenses have been issued to 230 Indian companies for manufacturing of various licensable defence items of which some have also signed contracts.

Till 2014, 42 licensed companies reported commencement of production to this Ministry. Since then, 28 more companies have reported commencement of production.

Contamination of uranium in drinking water

499. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the recent study of Duke University, severe contamination of uranium in drinking water in 16 States in the country have been reported;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and district-wise including the State of Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) the details of population which do not have access to safe drinking water, as on 30th June, 2018, State-wise and district-wise including the States of Bihar and West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI): (a) and (b) As per report titled "Large Scale Uranium Contamination of Groundwater Resources in India", a publication of American Chemical Society which was Co-Authored by Rachel M. Coyte and Avner Vengosh (Boh from Nicholas School of the Environment of Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, Unites States, 16 Indian States have

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.