

Sl. No.	Name of the Block	No. of habitations	Name of the habitation
3.	Bheemunipatnam	2	Nidigattu And Pathapalem
4.	Chodavaram	1	J.K. othuru
5.	Kasimkota	15	Addam, Gobburupalem, Bayyavaram, Charakam, Anadapuram, G.Bhimavaram, Gobburu, Narasingaplli, Jamadula Palem, Kasimkota, Somavaram, Anandapuram, Lalamkothuru, Naidupalem And Vissanapeta
6.	Kotavuratla	4	R.Kothuru, P. Thangedu, Balireddipalem And Sunkapuru
7.	Munagapaka	4	Appikondavanipalem, Ramaraidu Peta, Rajula Kompalu and Venkata Puram
8.	Padmanabham	1	Vijayaramapuram
9.	Paravada	4	Salapuvaripalam, Jallilapalem, Kothavennelapalem and Rekavanipalem
10.	Pendurthi	2	Gurrampalem and Rajayyapeta
11.	Rambilli	1	Kondavaripalem
12.	Ravikamatham	1	Pillavanipalam
13.	Rolugunta	2	Baligipalem And Bhogapuram
TOTAL		47	

#### **Arsenic contamination in ground water in Bihar**

†194. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted a study of the fact that people of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Buxar and its nearby districts in Bihar are suffering from cancer and other deadly diseases due to excess of arsenic in ground water; and

(b) if so, the measures being taken by Government to make ground water free of Arsenic and to make it potable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation has not conducted any study on people of Buxar and its nearby districts in Bihar suffering from cancer and other deadly diseases due to excess of arsenic in ground water. However, as per the information reported by the Government of Bihar, State Health Society, Bihar has conducted a survey on Arsenicosis and Cancer Suffering in the State. The survey has found 48 Arsenicosis patients from Patna, Samstipur and Darbhanga districts and 44 cases of Cancer in Bhagalpur, Munger, Vaishali, Begusarai, Katihar, Patna, Samstipur and Darbhanga districts.

Rural drinking water supply is a state subject. For improving the coverage of safe drinking water to rural population, this Ministry supplements the efforts of the states by providing them with technical and financial assistance through the centrally sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP).

It is the State Government who are empowered to plan, design, approve, execute and operate and maintain the schemes for providing safe drinking water to rural population. The funds provided to the States under NRDWP can be utilized for coverage and tackling water quality problems with priority to arsenic and fluoride affected habitations. As reported by the Government of Bihar into the Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of the Ministry as on 1st February, 2018, there are 35 habitations affected by arsenic in Buxar district.

To deal with arsenic and fluoride contamination, with the recommendation of NITI Aayog, Government of India had released ₹ 1,000 crore in March' 2016 for community water purification plants and for the last mile connectivity of surface water based piped water supply schemes in West Bengal and Rajasthan. Out of which, ₹ 22.83 crore has been released to Government of Bihar for installation of Community Water Purification Plants.

Further, the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation had launched the National Water Quality Sub-Mission (NWQSM) on 22nd March 2017 under NRDWP to provide safe drinking water to about 28,000 arsenic / fluoride affected habitations over a span of 4 years.

Under NWQSM, during 2016-17, ₹ 20.97 crore has been released to complete 48 ongoing schemes and during 2017-18 (as on 01st February, 2018), ₹ 80.37 crore has been released to complete 753 new schemes. Out of 753 new schemes, 09 schemes fall in Buxar district.

As per the information reported by the Government of Bihar, they are also taking up schemes under Mukhyamantri Nischay Yojana for providing safe drinking water to rural habitations of the State.

**Parameters for providing minimum drinking water**

†195. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

- (a) parameter of providing minimum drinking water per person per day in rural areas of country, the details thereof;
- (b) percentage of settlements out of total rural settlements and the number of persons in those settlements to whom minimum drinking water has been provided and the number of persons who are not covered under the stipulated parameter, the details thereof;
- (c) number of settlements where pure drinking water is unavailable due to affected quality of ground water or other water resources; and
- (d) by when the target of providing pure drinking water to all will be achieved, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA): (a) Basic minimum service level considered for rural water supply is 40 litre per capita per day (LPCD) as per National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) guidelines.

(b) and (c) This Ministry maintains data regarding coverage of rural water supply in terms of habitations. In rural area, as reported by the states into Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of the Ministry, as on 02.02.2018, total number of rural habitations are 17,26,031. Out of these 13,37,615 (77.50%) habitations are fully covered [having at least 40 liters per capita per day (LPCD) of safe water], 3,16,086 (18.31%) habitations are partially covered (safe water is available but below 40 LPCD) and 72,330 (4.19%) are water quality affected habitations. The quality affected drinking water is contaminated with at least one chemical water contaminant like Fluoride, Iron, Nitrate, Arsenic, Salinity and Heavy Metals.

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