

Polluted drinking water in Delhi

3193. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Governments' attention has been drawn to the news-item published in the 'Nav Bharat Times' dated the 4th June, 1981 according to which the residents of Delhi are compelled to drink polluted water ;

(b) whether the Government are aware that fishing water, in which cynide etc. are mixed, is flushed in the Yamuna water by various industries ;

(c) whether Government have tried to find out as to why there is generally earth in the drinking water supplied in Delhi; and

(d) the action so far taken by the Government to ensure supply of pure drinking water to the residents of Delhi and further action proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH):

(a) and (b)' Yes, Sir. However, the Delhi Water Supply & Sewage Disposal Undertaking of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi has informed that it is not true that the residents of Delhi are compelled to drink polluted water. The undertaking has further informed that it carries out regular analysis of the raw water at the various in take points and the analysis does not indicate the presence of cynaide, and chormium.

(c) The Undertaking has informed that no earth is generally present in the drinking water as the water is filtered.

(d) The quality of water right from the raw water to its treatment and final distribution upto the consumers tap is checked continuously by the DWS&SDU to ensure that potable water is supplied to the residents of Delhi as per public health standards.

Integrated Rural Development Programme

3194. PROF. K.K. TEWARY : Will the Minister of RURAL RECONSTRUCTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of India have started an integrated rural development programme under which backward districts have been selected for their all-round development; and

(b) if so, what are the criteria for declaring a district as backward ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BALLESHWAR RAM) : (a) the integrated rural development programme, initially launched in 2300 blocks selected mainly from areas covered by existing Centrally sponsored programmes like small farmers development agency and drought prone areas programme, was extended to all the 5011 development blocks in the country with effect from 2nd October, 1980.

(b) In view of reply to (a) above, does not arise.

Pollution in River Ganga

3196. SHRI ZAINUL BASHEER :

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA :

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that River Ganga has been subject to highest rate of pollution in the country;

(b) if so, the extent of pollution and its effect on the health of persons making use of this ; and