

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2615
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2009
TOXIC ELEMENTS IN GROUND WATER
Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the toxic elements present in the ground water which is consumed as potable water in different parts of the country has adversely affected the human health; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD)

(a) & (b): No national level study has been done, however smaller studies conducted at the different places have found high level of toxic elements like heavy metals (lead, arsenic, mercury & chromium etc.), pesticides and other industrial effluents. There are a variety of chemicals which can be normally present in water and can lead to adverse health effects, if they exceed the permissible limit. These include heavy metals including arsenic which have been found to exceed the permissible limit in some States like West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand and Orissa & can lead to adverse health effect.