

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1336

ANSWERED ON:16.11.2010

WATER PURIFIERS

Thomas Shri P. T.

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether complaints regarding violation of safety and quality standards in water purifiers have been received recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether any mechanism is in place to ensure compliance of the said standards;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the corrective steps taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V. THOMAS)

(a) to (e): Bureau of Indian Standards has formulated the following two Indian Standards for water purification:

(i) IS 14724: 1999 'Ultra-violet Water Disinfection System - Specification' -This standard covers systems employing UV radiation for disinfection of water. The system will give water free from water borne pathogenic bacteria. The system will help in removing only the suspended matter and bacteria and will not filter any dissolved solids or chemicals;

(ii) IS 7402 : 1986 'Specification for Filters for Drinking Water Purposes' - This standard prescribes the requirements and methods of sampling and test for filter candles as well as filter containers for drinking water purposes. The filter will help in removing only the suspended matter and bacteria and will not filter any dissolved solids or chemicals.

As on 12 November 2010, 11 licences for IS: 14724 and 1 licence for IS: 7402 are in operation under BIS Certification Scheme. BIS has not received any complaint regarding non conformity with the said Indian Standards, against its licensees. These two standards have not been notified for mandatory certification under section 14 of the BIS Act, 1986. Therefore, BIS cannot take action against any manufacturer who is not its licensee.

Under BIS Certification Scheme, BIS issues licenses for marking of Products conforming to specified Indian Standards. Hence, for the above mentioned two Indian Standards also, the same mechanism is available for ensuring compliance of licensees' product with the relevant standards.