

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:303

ANSWERED ON:01.12.2010

SAFE DRINKING WATER

Baske Shri Pulin Bihar;Lal Shri Pakauri

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has recently conducted a survey to identify the areas in the country which have excess of arsenic nitrates and fluorides in the ground water;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/Union Territory-wise;
- (c) whether the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) proposes to take concrete measures to remove these chemicals and ensure supply of clean drinking water in these areas;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the funds released to the States/ Union Territories during the last year and the current year?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WATER RESOURCES(SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 303 DUE FOR REPLY ON 01.12.2010 REGARDING SAFE DRINKING WATER

(a) The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) carries out annual surveys for chemical quality of water in shallow aquifers. A report pointing out six parameters which include presence of Fluoride, Arsenic and Nitrate (NO₃) that affect the quality of ground water has been compiled and published in April 2010. Further, National Institute of Hydrology, Roorkee has conducted groundwater quality assessment studies in metropolitan cities of India during 2002-07 under a project sponsored by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), Delhi. Ministry of Rural Development has carried out survey to identify habitations where drinking water is contaminated with Fluoride, Arsenic and Nitrate.

(b) State-wise details of number of districts in parts of which problems of Arsenic, Fluoride and Nitrate have been reported in excess of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) prescribed limit in ground water are given in Annexure-I.

(c) & (d) Central Ground Water Authority regulates ground water development to arrest the depletion of ground water resources. Remedial measures for treatment of water to ensure supply of safe drinking water in the affected areas are undertaken by the concerned state agencies.

(e) The funds released under National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) during 2009-10 and 2010-11 are given Annexure-II. In Urban areas in order to supplement the efforts of State Governments/Urban Local Bodies for providing water supply facilities, Ministry of Urban Development is providing Additional Central Assistance (ACA) as per guidelines under the ongoing Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) with components of Urban Infrastructure & Governance (UIG) and Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small & Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) launched in 2005-06. The UIG is for select 65 cities in the country and UIDSSMT is for all other Urban Cities/Towns etc. So far (till September, 2010) under UIG, 152 No. water supply projects have been approved at an estimated cost of Rs.19659.83 Crore. Similarly, under the UIDSSMT, 524 no. water supply projects have been approved at an estimated cost of Rs.10478.33 crore.