

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:651

ANSWERED ON:15.03.2012

CONTAMINATION OF GROUND WATER

Gulshan Smt. Paramjit Kaur;M.Thambidurai Dr. ;Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram ;Nagar Shri Surendra Singh;Singh Shri Bhupendra

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any survey on the presence of toxic substances in groundwater;
- (b) if so, the details of the level of arsenic, fluoride, heavy metals and uranium in groundwater State/UT-wise, especially in Punjab;
- (c) the details of the danger posed to the health of the people as a result thereof;
- (d) whether the Government is contemplating any scheme in consultation with the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare to mitigate the dangers of contamination; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES & MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA)

- (a) Central Ground Water Board under Ministry of Water Resources collects ground water samples for chemical analyses once in a year during pre-monsoon season from a network of 14966 observation wells located in different parts of the country.
- (b) As per the analysis of ground water samples collected by Central Ground Water Board, contamination due to the presence of fluoride, arsenic and heavy metals like lead, cadmium, chromium etc. in excess of permissible limits prescribed by Bureau of Indian Standards have been observed from isolated pockets in some States. State-wise details are given in Annexure I. Uranium in ground water has not been analysed by Central Ground Water Board.
- (c) No information in this regard is available with the MoWR.
- (d) No Sir.
- (e) Does not arise.