

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:991
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2012
WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY
Singh Shri Jagada Nand

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has constituted a Water Quality Assessment Authority for ensuring the quality of water being used and to fix norms for safe drinking water;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any difference between the norms for bottled water and public drinking water;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the plan to bridge the difference between the norms for public drinking water and bottled water?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES(SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b) Water Quality Assessment Authority (WQAA) has been constituted under the Environment Protection Act, 1986 to bring uniformity in the water quality monitoring and to direct the concerned agencies for taking effective measures so as to mitigate the contamination of the surface and ground water. However, drinking water and fixation of its norms does not come under the purview of the Water Quality Assessment Authority .

(c) & (d) Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has formulated following Indian Standards concerning Packaged Water:

IS 14543:2004 Packaged drinking water (other than natural mineral water) (First Revision)

IS 13428:2005 Packaged natural mineral water (Second Revision) Further, Bureau of Indian Standards has formulated following Indian Standard concerning drinking water:

IS 10500:2012 Drinking water - Specification (Second Revision) A comparative table of the organoleptic, physical, chemical and microbiological requirements specified in the above Indian Standards is enclosed as Annexure- I.

(e) The Bureau of Indian Standards has informed that, as on date there is no proposal within the concerned Technical Committee, i.e. Drinks and Drinking Water Sectional Committee, FAD 14 of BIS to align requirements specified in the Indian Standards on Packaged Drinking Water, Packaged Natural Mineral Water and Drinking Water.