

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:390
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2012
QUALITY SPECIFICATIONS IN DRINKING WATER
Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether BIS standard IS-10500 is followed in supply of drinking water under the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the efforts made by the Government to ensure that IS-10500 standard is strictly followed in the supply of drinking water in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI)

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

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 390 due for reply on 20/12/2012

(a)to(c): Yes Sir. Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) standard IS-10500 is to be followed in supply of drinking water under the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) Guidelines.

(d): Drinking water supply is a State subject. BIS standard IS-10500 is voluntary in nature. However, Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation provides technical and financial assistance to the States/UTs under the NRDWP to supplement the efforts of States/ UTs in providing adequate safe drinking water supply, adhering to IS-10500 standards, in the rural areas of the country.

Under NRDWP, upto 67 % of the funds allocated can be utilised for provision of safe drinking water facilities as per IS-10500 standards to rural habitations in the country. In addition, 5 % of NRDWP funds have been earmarked for Water Quality under which 75% is allocated to States to cover habitations with chemical contamination including arsenic and fluoride, in drinking water sources. The remaining 25% is allocated to States with high priority districts affected with Japanese Encephalitis and Acute Encephalitis Syndrome.

3% of NRDWP funds are allocated for Water Quality Monitoring and Surveillance on a 100% Central share basis, to assist States in inter-alia, setting up of State, district and sub-district drinking water quality testing laboratories to test all public drinking water supply sources on a regular basis on various parameters of IS-10500 standard.

The Ministry urges States to ensure testing of all public drinking water supply sources atleast twice a year for bacteriological contamination and once a year for chemical contamination and take corrective action for supply of safe drinking water in cases where excess contamination is detected.