

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2890

ANSWERED ON:27.08.2013

QUALITY OF BOTTLED WATER

Rajendran Shri C.;Rana Shri Jagdish Singh;Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

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

(a) whether any irregularities have been noticed/reported in grant of licences for setting up of plants/factories producing packaged/mineral drinking water;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the total number of licences issued and irregularities reported during each of the last three years and the current year along with the action taken thereon, State-wise; and

(c) whether any mechanism is in place to check the quality of packaged/mineral water and if so, the number of samples tested and those found violating the norms during the said period along with the corrective steps taken in this regard, State-wise?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V. THOMAS)

(a) to (c) : Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) does not give licences for setting up plants/ factories. However, BIS grants only product licences for Packaged Drinking Water as per IS 14543 and Packaged Natural Mineral Water as per IS 13428 as these products are under mandatory certification under Food Safety and Standards (Food Product Standards and Food Additives) Regulations 2011.

BIS ensures the quality of Packaged Drinking Water and Packaged Natural Mineral Water manufactured by its licensees under the product certification scheme wherein regular surveillance of licensees is done through factory inspections, by drawing of samples from factory & market and their independent testing to check the conformity of the product to relevant Indian Standards (IS 14543 & IS 13428).

If the product is found deviating from the norms prescribed in the relevant Indian Standards, actions like issue of warning/ stop marking/ deferment of licence/non renewal of licence/ cancellation of licence are taken. Such actions depend on the severity of non-conformity and/ or recurrence of failures and/or unsatisfactory operation of the licence.

The details of number of samples drawn, number of samples found failing, number of warning letters issued, number of stop marking and number of licences cancelled/not renewed for the last three years and the current year for Packaged Drinking Water are enclosed at annexure 1 to 4 and details on Packaged Natural Mineral Water are enclosed at annexure 5.