

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2658  
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2015  
BROMATE LEVEL IN DRINKING WATER  
Pal Shri Jagdambika

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

- (a) whether India has adopted the World Health Organization's prescribed standards of bromate levels i.e. 10 micrograms per litre for bromides in drinking water;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the current level of bromate in drinking water in different States; and
- (c) if not, the reasons for rejection of World Health Organization's prescribed standards of bromate levels?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER & SANITATION(SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV)

(a) As informed by the Planning & Coordination Department of Bureau of Indian Standards

(BIS), they have prescribed Indian Standards on Packaged Drinking Water IS: 14543, Packaged Natural Mineral Water IS: 13428 and Drinking Water IS:10500. Presently, the requirement of bromates levels according to World Health Organization (WHO) standard ( i.e. 10 microgram per litre) in the Indian Standards are not specified.

(b) Since the level of bromides/bromate in drinking water specification (IS:10500) has not been defined, these levels in drinking water samples are either not tested or not reported by any State Departments dealing with rural drinking water supply to the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation.

However, as informed by BIS, it has recently undertaken a nation-wide study to evaluate level/ content of bromates in Packaged Drinking Water. 100 samples of Packaged Drinking Water were drawn from different States and sent to Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), Mumbai for testing. Out of these, 25 test reports have been received in respect of samples drawn from Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Telangana, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab and Haryana. In 24 samples, the requirement of bromates are within the WHO prescribed limits. Only in one case (pertaining to Jammu & Kashmir), the bromates content was not found within the WHO norms.

(c) The Technical Committee of BIS has already taken steps for incorporating the requirement of bromates in Packaged Drinking Water in accordance with WHO norms (i.e., 10 micrograms per litre).