

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6880  
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2015  
IMPACT OF R.O. SYSTEM  
Hansdak Shri Vijay Kumar

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

- (a) whether it is true that several minerals/vitamins essential for human body are also extracted from water from the water purified by R.O. system causing several health issues;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether any concrete remedial steps have been taken or proposes to be taken by the Government to address the problem; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

**Answer**

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

(a)to (d). The Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Government of India is aware that Reverse Osmosis technology can remove almost any mineral or ion present in drinking water to a great extent. Low Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) value of treated water imply that most of the chemical elements have been removed. However, TDS value in treated water from Reverse Osmosis (RO) plants can be increased by mixing water before the Pressure Vessel or the RO membrane unit but after necessary pre-treatment with treated water from RO membrane unit and then pass through further for disinfection. This may slightly increase the minerals essential for human body like calcium and magnesium. However, as understood from the internet, some of the Global water communities are of the opinion that essential minerals required for human body comes from food and dietary supplementary sources and not from drinking water. The Ministry is not in receipt of any complaint regarding water purified by RO system or causing several health issues.