

Title: Need to ensure quality of mineral water being sold in jars and bottles throughout India.

DR. MANDA JAGANNATH (NAGAR KURNOOL): Sir, with drinking water crisis throughout the country, people are getting accustomed to buy sealed water bottles and sachets being sold in every nook and corner of the country.

Only the affluent and health conscious people can afford it as its prices are at par with milk prices. However, with no mechanism to check the quality of this water, people may end up endangering their health.

There are over hundreds of brands of water being sold in jars and sachets. Most of them are not of ISI standards. The formula adopted in the so-called mineral water bottles should be standardised and it should also be ensured that skilled workers are available in all the plants to analyse and ensure that only standardised water is bottled, which is fully sterilised for human consumption.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to direct the Prevention of Food Adulteration Department in each State to test all packaged drinking water for human consumption, especially 20 litre jars that are used in all public functions throughout India and consumed by lakhs of people daily.