

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:185

ANSWERED ON:19.07.2004

CONTAMINATED WATER

Chakraborty Shri Ajay;Pathak Shri Brajesh

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government is aware that in many States particularly in West Bengal, available water gets contaminated with Arsenic and Fluoride;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the preventive steps taken/proposed to be taken to fight out this menace; and

(d) the financial assistance provided to the State Governments for the purpose?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY OF PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.185 FOR REPLY ON 19.07.2004 REGARDING CONTAMINATED WATER

As per studies carried out by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under the Ministry of Water Resources, naturally occurring contaminants of arsenic and fluoride are found more than the permissible limit in ground water in some parts in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. The names of districts parts of which are affected by excess arsenic/fluoride are given in the enclosed Annexure.

Water being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of concerned State Governments to take preventive measures to fight out this problem. However, the CGWB has provided technical guidance to the States and has organized a number of mass awareness programmes to educate the people for the purpose. The CGWB also monitors ground water quality periodically to map the changes in it and appraises the State Governments of the same for taking necessary remedial measures. It has also drilled exploratory wells tapping arsenic/fluoride free aquifer zones and has handed over these wells to the State Governments for utilisation.

The Department of Drinking Water Supply, under the Ministry of Rural Development, is rendering financial and technical assistance to the States for tackling water quality problems in rural areas on 75:25 funding pattern between Central Government and State Government. With effect from 01.04.1998, powers have been delegated to the State Governments for sanctioning and implementing projects for tackling quality problem. 15% of financial assistance to State Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) have been earmarked for tackling quality problem.

**ANNEXURE**

(REFERENCE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 185 DATED 19.07.2004)

STATE-WISE DETAILS OF DISTRICTS PARTS OF WHICH ARE AFFECTED BY EXCESS FLUORIDE AND ARSENIC

S.N Name of Name of the Districts  
o. the State Fluoride Arsenic

1. Andhra Pradesh Prakasam, Anantapur, Nellore, Nalgonda, Ranga Reddy, Adilabad, Krishna, Kurnool, Cuddapah, Guntur, Karimnagar
2. Assam Kamrup, Nowgong, Karbi - Anglong
3. Bihar Munger, Nawada Bhojpur
4. Chhattisgarh Bastar, Bilaspur, Dhamtari, Kanker, Korba, Koriya, Raipur, Rajnandgaon
5. Delhi North-west, West, South-west
6. Gujarat Ahmedabad, Amreli, Banaskantha, Bhavnagar,

- Junagarh, Rajkot, Surendranagar, Vadodra,  
Kachchh, Panchmahal, Mehsana, Sabarkantha,
- 7 Haryana Rohtak, Jhajjar, Jind, Hissar, Bhiwani,  
Mahendragarh, Faridabad, Gurgaon, Kaithal,  
Karnal, Kurukshetra, Sirsa, Sonapat,  
Rewari, Fatehabad, Panipat
8. Jharkhand Giridih, Bokaro
9. Karnataka Bijapur, Gulbarga, Bellary, Raichur,  
Chitradurga, Kolar, Gadag
10. Kerala Palghat, Alleppey
11. Madhya Bhind, Morena, Hoshangabad, Guna, Jhabua,  
Pradesh Tikamgarh, Chhindwara, Seoni, Mandla,  
Dindori, Sheopuri, Dhar, Jabalpur city
12. Maharasht Bhandara, Chandrapur, Nanded, Gadchiroli,  
ra Yavatmal, Sholapur
13. Orissa Bolangir, Khurda, Kalahandi,
14. Punjab Bhatinda, Sangrur, Mansa, Moga, Feorzepur,  
Faridkot, Muktsar, Patiala
15. Rajasthan Ajmer, Barmer, Bhilwara, Bikaner,  
Dungarpur, Ganganagar, Hanumangarh, Jaipur,  
Jaisalmer, Jalore, Jhunjhunu, Jodhpur,  
Nagaur, Pali, Rajsamand, Sikar, Sirohi
16. Tamil Dharmapuri, Salem, Erode, Vellore, Namakkal,  
Nadu Tiruchirapalli, Ramanathapuram, Villupuram,  
Cuddalore, Tirunelveli
17. Uttar Fatehpur, Raibareli, Lakhimpur Kheri,  
Pradesh Lucknow, Uanna, Kanpur, Hardoi,  
Bulandshahar, Aligarh, Agra, Mathura,  
Ghaziabad, Meerut, Firozabad, Etah,  
Fatehgarh, Mainpuri, Mahoba, Allahabad,  
Varanasi
18. West Birbhum, Howrah, North 24 Parganas Malda,  
Bengal Murshidabad  
Nadia, North  
24 Parganas,  
South 24  
Parganas,  
Hoogli  
Howrah,  
Bardhawan