

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1202

ANSWERED ON:17.07.2014

CONTAMINATION OF WATER

Birla Shri Om;Kaswan Shri Rahul;Mullappally Shri Ramachandran

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any survey to identify the areas in the country where excessive quantities of Lead, Arsenic, Nitrate and Flouride are present in the ground water;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and Union Territory-wise;
- (c) whether the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) proposes to take concrete measures to separate the said chemicals from water and ensure supply of safe drinking water in these areas;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the amount released to the States/ UTs during the last three years and the current year for the purpose and the amount utilised, State/UT-wise and yearwise?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION;  
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TEXTILES (INDEPENDENT CHARGE). (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) & (b) The recent Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) survey shows that the ground water in some parts of various States in the Country is contaminated with Arsenic, Fluoride, Nitrate and heavy metals like Lead etc. Parts in ten States have excess concentration of Arsenic, nineteen have higher concentration of Fluoride, twenty have higher concentration of Nitrate and fourteen have higher concentration of Lead beyond norms prescribed by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS). State/UT-wise details are given in Annexure.

(c) & (d) Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA), is a Regulatory Authority constituted under Section 3(3) of The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, for regulation and control of ground water development and management in the Country. However, CGWB carries out exploratory drilling to delineate contaminant free aquifer zones and successful exploratory wells are handed over to the concerned State Agencies for utilization. CGWB also provides technical guidance to State Agencies in tackling the problem of water quality. Since R&D work of in-situ remediation of aquifers contaminated with Arsenic, Fluoride, Nitrate and heavy metals is in early stages, remedial measures are concentrated on providing alternate sources of water supply.

(e) In view of the reply to part (c) & (d) above, question does not arise.