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Title: Need to provide clean drinking water free of arsenic contamination in districts of West Bengal particularly in Murshidabad.

**SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY (BAHARAMPUR) :** Arsenic contamination in 8 districts in West Bengal has already assumed an alarming proportion. It first came to the knowledge of people decades earlier but the State Government failed to take it seriously.

As a result of which the poison has started creeping into the body-system leading to the death of the affected persons let alone other ailments. But due to the ignorance of the people and non-seriousness of the Government, the arsenic contamination has started taking its toll.

Number of arsenic-hit villages in the Murshidabad district in my constituency has turned into 'No go' area where parents from other villages are reluctant to have any nuptial relations with these affected villages.

Government should organise massive awareness programme and provide funds for building drinking water facility which may prevent untimely death of a large number of people.