

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION**  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.6307**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.04.2018**

**Arsenic in Groundwater**

**6307. SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR:**  
**DR. SANJAY JAISWAL:**  
**SHRI PREM DAS RAI:**

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

- (a) the names of States where arsenic and other harmful substances are found in groundwater, used by habitants for drinking purposes;
- (b) the measures/projects taken to improve the poor quality of underground water for its use as drinking water in rural areas; and
- (c) the other steps being taken by her Ministry to ensure continued availability and access to clean drinking water in rural areas across the country including drought-hit States?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION**  
**(SHRI S.S.AHLUWALIA)**

(a) to (c) :State-wise number of arsenic, fluoride, iron, salinity, nitrate and heavy metal affected habitations (more than prescribed limit found in drinking water sources) as reported by the states into Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of the Ministry as on 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2018 is at Annexure.

Rural drinking water supply is a State subject. However, for improving the coverage of safe drinking water to rural population, this Ministry supplements the efforts of the States by providing them with technical and financial assistance through the centrally sponsored scheme National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP). It is the State Government who plan, design, approve, execute and operate & maintain the schemes for providing safe drinking water to rural population. The funds provided to the States under NRDWP can be utilized for coverage and tackling water quality problems with priority to fluoride and arsenic affected habitations.

The Ministry has informed all the States to commission surface water based piped water supply schemes in all water quality affected habitations as a long term sustainable solution. To deal with arsenic and fluoride contamination, with the recommendation of NITI Aayog, Government of India had released Rs.1,000 crore in March 2016 for commissioning of Community Water Purification Plants (CWPPs) and surface water based piped water supply schemes.

In addition to this, the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation had launched the National Water Quality Sub-Mission (NWQSM) on 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2017, under NRDWP to provide safe drinking water to about 28,000 arsenic / fluoride affected habitations, in a span of 4 years, subject to availability of funds.

**Annexure referred to in the reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 6307 due  
for reply on 05/04/2018**

**State-wise number of arsenic, fluoride, iron, salinity, nitrate and heavy metal  
affected habitations (more than prescribed limit found in drinking water  
sources) as reported by the states into Integrated Management Information  
System (IMIS) of the Ministry as on 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2018**

S. No.	Name of the State	Contamination Wise Number Of affected Habitations						
		Fluoride	Arsenic	Iron	Salinity	Nitrate	Heavy Metal	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh	348	0	1	62	6	0	417
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	31	0	0	0	31
3	Assam	285	4514	6213	0	0	7	11019
4	Bihar	898	871	2443	0	0	0	4212
5	Chhattisgarh	403	19	728	2	10	0	1162
6	Haryana	118	0	0	9	0	0	127
7	Jammu & Kashmir	4	0	12	0	0	0	16
8	Jharkhand	534	101	2183	3	4	0	2825
9	Karnataka	579	4	77	40	318	1	1019
10	Kerala	34	0	199	96	32	0	361
11	Madhya Pradesh	171	0	5	10	0	0	186
12	Maharashtra	75	0	17	92	88	0	272
13	Meghalaya	0	0	32	0	0	0	32
14	Nagaland	0	0	30	0	0	0	30
15	Odisha	104	0	2543	377	0	0	3024
16	Punjab	298	698	267	14	143	2106	3526
17	Rajasthan	5996	0	5	12606	1050	0	19657
18	Tamil Nadu	0	0	171	22	0	0	193
19	Telangana	681	0	36	182	145	0	1044
20	Tripura	0	0	2538	0	0	0	2538
21	Uttar Pradesh	179	748	362	80	10	0	1379
22	Uttarakhand	0	0	13	0	3	0	16
23	West Bengal	1322	9934	5707	474	0	270	17707
<b>Total</b>		<b>12029</b>	<b>16889</b>	<b>23613</b>	<b>14069</b>	<b>1809</b>	<b>2384</b>	<b>70793</b>