

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI
DEPARTMENT OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 800
ANSWERED ON 21/07/2022

QUALITY OF GROUND WATER RESOURCES IN BIHAR

800. DR. MOHAMMAD JAWED:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry aims to rectify the current decrease in quality of ground water sources in rural Bihar due to massive levels of chemical contamination as evidenced by the 16th Bihar Economic Survey Report 2021-22 which states that the water is a health hazard in 31 of the 38 districts and contains varying levels of arsenic, fluoride and iron;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Ministry aims to introduce relief programs to provide safe drinking water to the people in the aforementioned districts and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI
(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)

(a) to (c) As reported by State, district-wise details of habitations affected with contamination in drinking water sources in Bihar is **annexed**.

To make provision of potable tap water supply in adequate quantity, of prescribed quality and on regular & long-term basis to every rural household in the country by 2024, since August, 2019, Government of India in partnership with States, is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) –Har Ghar Jal. As reported by State, out of 1.72 crore rural households in Bihar, 1.60 crore (92.78%) households have tap water supply in their homes. The State/UT, district & village-wise status of tap water connection in rural households, as reported by States/ UTs is in public domain and available on JJM dashboard at:

<https://ejalshakti.gov.in/jjmreport/JJMIndia.aspx>

Under JJM, while allocating the funds to States/ UTs, 10% weightage is given to the population residing in habitations affected by chemical contaminants and while planning for potable water supply to household through tap water connection, priority is to be given to quality-affected habitations. Since, planning, implementation and commissioning of piped water supply scheme based on a safe water source may take time, purely as an interim measure, States/ UTs have been advised to install community water purification plants (CWPPs) especially in Arsenic and Fluoride affected habitations to provide potable water to every household at the rate of 8–10 litre per capita per day (lpcd) to meet their drinking and cooking requirements.

Central Ground Water Board generates ground water quality data on regional scale during various scientific studies and ground water monitoring programme throughout the country. Data on ground water quality has been shared with concerned State Governments for taking remedial measures, awareness and monitoring of drinking water use.

Annex referred to in the reply of Lok Sabha unstarred Question No. 800 due for reply on 21.07.2022

District-wise number of habitations affected with contamination in drinking water sources in Bihar and detail of CWPPs installed in Arsenic and Fluoride affected habitations

S. No.	District	Number of quality-affected habitations					
		Fluoride	CWPP Installed	Arsenic	CWPP Installed	Iron	Total
1.	Araria	-	-	-	-	77	77
2.	Aurangabad	1	-	-	-	-	1
3.	Banka	-	-	-	-	1	1
4.	Begusarai	-	-	9	2	27	36
5.	Bhagalpur	-	-	1	-	-	1
6.	Bhojpur	-	-	-	-	1	1
7.	Katihar	-	-	-	-	12	12
8.	Khagaria	-	-	-	-	19	19
9.	Kishanganj	-	-	-	-	46	46
10.	Patna	-	-	1	-	-	1
11.	Purnia	-	-	-	-	43	43
12.	Saharsa	-	-	-	-	223	223
Total		1	-	11	2	449	461

Source: JJM-IMIS