

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5694
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.04.2022

REHABILITATION OF PEOPLE

5694. SHRI ANUMULA REVANTH REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps to rehabilitate the people in the 8 kms radius of Lambapur-Peddagattu region in Telangana after Atomic Minerals Directorate has found high-level Uranium contamination in the ground-water;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details of the steps taken by the Government to stop further contamination of groundwater that could affect the waters of the Krishna river?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCE & PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH):

(a) to (c) Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD), a constituent unit of Department of Atomic Energy collects environmental baseline data including ground water samples around the Uranium deposits, before mining is taken up.

As a part of environmental baseline data collection around the Lambapur – Peddagattu region, Nalgonda district, Telangana, AMD has collected ground water samples from 25 private tube wells / hand pumps during the period November, 2018 to July, 2019.

Out of the 25 samples, four are from hand pumps used for domestic purposes and balance 21 are from tube wells used for irrigation purposes. The four hand pump sample locations (from which the water is used domestic purposes) have Uranium values in the range of 6 to 48 ppb uranium which is below the prescribed safety limit (60 ppb) by Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB). The Uranium values in the balance water

samples vary from 1 to 2,618ppb. Thirteen out of the twenty-five samples have Uranium content less than 60ppb.

Most of the sample locations with high Uranium contents fall in cultivated land where the water is used for irrigation purposes. High uranium content in the ground water from granitic country rock is a common occurrence in such type of terrain. The data has been shared with Government of Telangana.
