

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 41
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.02.2020

NGT ban on ROs

41. SHRI P. L. PUNIA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether National Green Tribunal (NGT) has directed the Ministry to issue notification restricting the use of Reverse Osmosis (RO) water purifiers in places where Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) in water is below 500 mg per litre;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government in compliance with NGT orders;
- (c) the details of areas where TDS in water is below 500 mg per litre and water purifiers are not required; and
- (d) the details of such areas where total TDS in water is above 500 mg per litre or the water is not fit for drinking?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)

(a) to (d) Yes Sir, Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) in O.A. 134 of 2015 titled 'Friends through its General Secretary versus Ministry of Water Resources' *vide* its order dated 20.05.2019 has directed that Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change may issue appropriate notification prohibiting use of RO where TDS in water is less than 500 mg/l and wherever RO is permitted, a requirement is laid down for recovery of water be more than 60%. **A draft notification for regulation of RO based water purification system is approved for public consultation.** While regulating the use of RO system in the Country, inter alia based on the TDS parameter, the concerned Local Bodies like Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) / Jal Nigam/ Municipal Corporation / Jal Board / Municipalities, Private and Public sector agencies engaged in potable water supply, shall inform the consumers about the water sources and quality including TDS concentration of water being supplied through billing instruments and also through public advertisement in newspaper and other mass media means on regular basis.
