

Water quality report

March 30, 2020

Why in news?

- The Centre has released the Water Quality Report, 2019.

About the report:

- The report is **in line with the Jal Jeevan Mission**, launched to provide clean and safe drinking water to all by 2024.
- It is based on a study undertaken by the **Department of Consumer Affairs through the Bureau of India Standards (BIS)** on the quality of piped drinking water being supplied in the country.
- It has ranked the States, Smart Cities and even Districts based on the quality of tap water.
- In the first phase, the samples of drinking water were drawn from various locations across Delhi.
- In the second phase, samples were drawn from 20 State capitals and sent for testing as per **Indian Standard 10500:2012 (Specification for Drinking Water) as set by the BIS.**
- **Result:**
- **A vast majority of the samples have failed to comply** with the requirements of IS 10500:2012 in one or more parameters.
- **In Delhi, all the 11 samples drawn did not comply** with the requirements of the Indian Standard & failed on several parameters.
- **All the 10 samples drawn from Mumbai were found to comply** with the requirements.
- **In the cities of Hyderabad, Bhubaneswar, Ranchi, Raipur, Amravati and Shimla**, one or more samples did not comply with the requirements of the Standard.
- **None of the samples drawn from 13 of the State Capitals**

i.e. Chandigarh, Thiruvananthapuram, Patna, Bhopal, Guwahati, Bengaluru, Gandhi Nagar, Lucknow, Jammu, Jaipur, Dehradun, Chennai, Kolkata complied with the requirements of the Indian Standard.

What next?

- In the **third phase**, samples from **Capital cities of North Eastern States and Smart Cities identified by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** have been drawn and are being tested.
- The result of these is expected soon.
- In the **fourth phase**, it is **proposed to test samples drawn from all the district headquarters of the country** and their testing is planned to be completed by 15th August 2020.
- The Union Government wants to **make BIS Standards mandatory for Tap Water** so as to ensure quality drinking water for all households.