

**ATTACHMENT 3: Bureau of Indian Standards: MOM 26th Meeting of Drinks & Drinking Water Sectional Committee, FAD 14  
(Dated 16th Nov 2018)**

**Comments on IS 10500: 2012 Drinking Water from Mr. Mayank Raj Mohan, Greenleaf Foundation Ltd**

Committee deliberated and decided to ask Mr. Mayank Raj Mohan about the specific nutrients as the committee feels the need of more information. The issue was raised in the parliament and a Committee was set up under Dr. R. A. Mashelkar, former Director General, CSIR. The Committee in its recommendation has asked BIS to revisit its standard and consider minimum requirements for some of the essential minerals especially Ca and Mg along with the maximum limits.

**Decision:** The Committee after deliberations decided that the standard minimum limits for some of the essential minerals shall be considered after conclusive evidence about the harmful effects of low content of some of the essential minerals is established.

No inputs on the matter have been received by the BIS Secretariat.

**The Committee may kindly DELIBERATE.**

The Committee deliberated on the matter in detail and observed that the WHO Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality Edition 4 (2011) also do not recommend any minimum values for minerals ‘Calcium & Magnesium’ and also does not make any recommendations regarding minimum concentrations of any essential elements because of insufficient scientific information. The Committee took note of the following information given in the WHO’s said document:

*‘...Although certain mineral waters may be useful in providing essential micronutrients, such as calcium and magnesium, these Guidelines do not make recommendations regarding minimum concentrations of essential elements because of the uncertainties surrounding mineral nutrition from drinking-water. Packaged waters with very low mineral content, such as distilled or demineralized waters, are also consumed. There is insufficient scientific information on the benefits or hazards of long-term consumption of very low mineral waters to allow any recommendations to be made.’*

The Committee therefore opined that currently there is no conclusive scientific evidence defining any minimum requirements for nutrients for drinking water, hence the same cannot be specified in IS 10500. Therefore, as decided in the previous meeting, the Committee decided that the

		<p>standard minimum limits for some of the essential minerals may only be considered after conclusive evidence about the harmful effects of low content of some of the essential minerals is established.</p> <p>In view of above, the Committee decided to close the matter and requested BIS Secretariat to reply to Mr. Mayank Raj Mohan about the Committee's decision on the matter as recorded above.</p>
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