

A SURVEY ON THE SUPPLY OF DRINKING WATER

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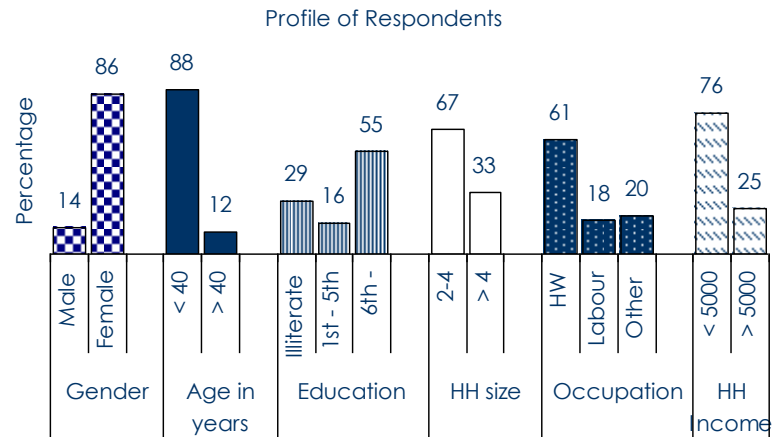
The purpose of present enquiry is to know the opinion of the residents of Saibabanagar one of the slums in Hyderabad on the present drinking water supply systems. The data was collected from 49 residents of Saibabanagar in Hyderabad. The information was collected through an interview schedule covering socio-economic details, details of access to water, water purification methods, details of payments, opinion on the quality of water, and willingness to pay drinking water if delivered at door steps.

1. Profile of respondents

a) *Demographic:* The data shows that majority of the respondents are female (85.7%) followed by male (14.3%). The age of the respondents varies between 19 and 60 years with an average of 33. However, majority of the respondents are between 20 and 40 years old. The household size varies from two to eight with an average of four members. About two-third households comprise of two to four members and the remaining have more than four members.

b) *Social & economic conditions:* The data on the occupation of the respondents shows that majority are engaged as housewife (61.2%) followed by labour (18.4%) and petty business. Little more than one half of the respondents are not earning any more

to the family. Few members, one to two, have been engaged as drivers, masonry workers, tailoring and private jobs. Majority of the respondents graduated between 7th and 12th standard followed by 1st to 5th (16.3%) and illiterate (28.6%). The household income varies from Rs. 2000 to Rs. 10000 with an average of Rs. 4575 per month.



2. Source of drinking water at present

a) *Source of drinking of water:* All the respondents have reported that municipal tanker (100%) followed by bore wells (65.3%) as the sources of drinking water at present. Of the total 49 respondents, 22.4% and 30.5% of the respondents have reported municipal tanker and private tanker as alternative source of drinking water.

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b) *Distance & time:* The respondents on average walk 30 meters and spent 10 minutes to collect water from municipal tanker or a bore well. Further, wait 5 to 60 minutes with an average of 26 minutes in queue to get their turn. Majority respondents have reported that the water is available 30 to 60 minutes in a day with an average of 45 minutes. About the periodicity of water supply, majority have reported as irregular. The average amount of water supply during summer (8.65 pots) is less compared to winter (13.86 pots) season.

Table-1: Details of Water Sources and Quantity of Water (Fig in %)

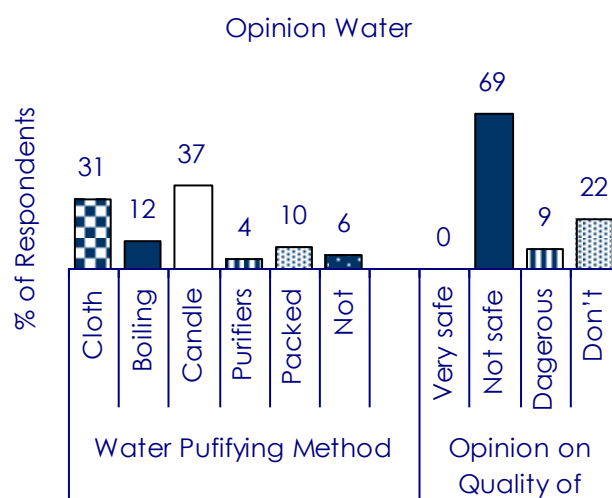
Water source		Alternative source of water				Availability of Water		Obtained in Winter		Obtained in summer	
Municipal tanker	Bore well	Municipal tanker	Private tanker	Packed water	Bore well	< 30 minutes	31-60 minutes	5-15 liters	16-25 liters	5-15 liters	16-25 liters
100	65	22	31	12	65	65	35	80	20	82	18

c) *Requirement:* The respondents have reported that on an average a household requires 30 liters of drinking water with 15 liters and 100 liters as minimum and maximum respectively.

d) *Amount spending on drinking water:* The data shows that of the total respondents, 91.8% have been paying for drinking water and the remaining (8.2%) are not paying. The amount varies from Rs. 10 to 30 per month with an average of Rs. 24.

3. Water purification methods

a) *Methods of water purification:* The respondents have reported various methods of water purification. Of the total respondents, 69.4% are purifying drinking water before use it and the remaining have been drinking the water without any means of purification. The water purification methods include i) cloth filter (30.6%), ii) boiling (12.2%), iii) candle filter (36.7%), iv) purifiers like aqua, kent etc (4.1) and packed drinking water (10.2%).



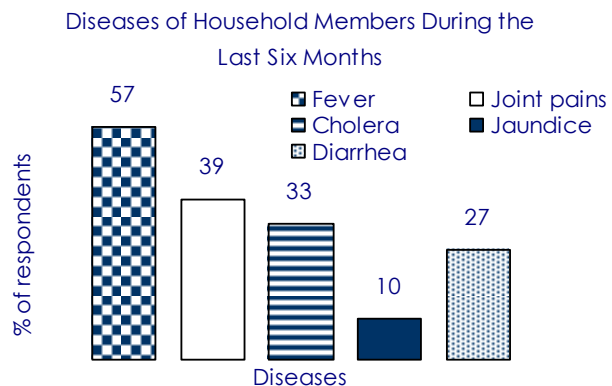
b) *Why do they purify water?* In response to a question why do you purify drinking water, many have reported as ii) unsafe if not purified (20.4%), ii) purification is must for the health of children, aged, diseased (36.7%),

experienced disease in the past (22.4%), looks dirty (4.1%), doctor advised (22.4%) and influence of neighbours (4.1%).

c) *Opinion on the quality of water:* Of the total respondents, none has said that the water supplied is very safe; however, 69.4% have opinioned as not safe, 8.2% as dangerous and the remaining said as don't know (22.4%). Regarding taste and smell of drinking water, like purity of water none has reported as very good; 12.2 % as good, 32.7% as no difference; majority respondents have reported as poor (51%) and very poor (8.2%)

d) *Sickness of household members in the past six months:*

Of the total respondents, 65% have reported that one of the household members fallen sick during the last six months, and the diseases reported as i) fever (57.1%), ii) Joint pains (38.8%), iii) cholera (32.87%), iv) Jaundice (10.2%) and v) diarrhea (26.5%). However, 53.1% of the respondents felt that the above diseases are because of drinking water that that they have been used.



4. Willingness to pay for drinking water

The data shows that of the total respondents, 71.4% are willing to pay Rs. 2 to Rs 30 per month for 20 liters of water. Majority respondents are willing to pay between Rs. 10 to Rs. 30 per month. Further they are willing to travel one to two kilometers. In response to the question can you pay, if drinking water delivers at home, little more than one half of the respondents have positively responded.

5. Learning

The major drinking water source to the residents of Saibabanagar is municipal tanker and bore-wells. In case of absence of municipal tanker, an alternative source for drinking water is private tanker. The respondents are spending considerable time to fetch water.

The quantity of water being supplied is irregular and inadequate; and the quality of water is not safe and dangerous caused for many water born diseases – fever, jaundice, cholera, diarrhea, in the last six months. Candle filter and cloth filter are the prevailing methods of water purification. Significant difference is found in water supply and requirement/ consumption between winter and summer seasons.

At present, most of the respondents have been paying for drinking water. Majority of the respondents are willing to pay little amount and to walk smaller distances. However, only one half of the members are willing to pay if drinking water supplies at the door steps.