

Women stage protest over contaminated water supply

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GAZIABAD: The women of Vaishali protested against erratic and contaminated water supply in the area on Tuesday. They alleged that the water department was aware of the problem but had not taken any measures to resolve the issue.

Residents of Kamna area in Sector 1 alleged that they had been getting contaminated water supply for the past fortnight. They said several complaints had been made to the department but it was yet to take an action.

The women said that there was a steep rise in their household budget as they had to buy packaged water for cooking and drinking purposes.

“The department’s apathetic attitude not only poses health risks to residents, but has also created a hole in our pockets. We have to shell out at least R35-40 to buy a bottle daily,” said Sulekha Shekhar, a resident.

Residents from Vaishali sectors 3 and 4 also shared the



■ Women display dirty water being supplied to Vaishali Sector 1.

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same problem.

“The water is dirty and stinks. It can cause health hazards,” said Sunita Mangal, a resident.

The protesters said many people could not afford bottled water. There have been cases where residents have fallen ill after consuming the contaminated water being supplied to the area.

“Five cases of jaundice have already been reported from the area. If the water department does not address the problem

at the earliest, more people will fall prey to diseases,” said Vimla Bhat, a social worker and protester.

The department tried to play down the issue. Officials said it might be a problem of a particular house or building.

“We are unaware of the problem. If there is any such issue, it will be solved by tomorrow. A house could have been affected due to breakage in the pipeline,” said Yogendra Yadav, junior engineer at water department.