

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2138
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2003
WATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has decided to adopt a proper method in water management system to meet the requirements in urban areas;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has also decided to give top priority for improvement of water management system in urban areas besides sanitation and development of slums;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether a two day 'Stakeholder workshop programme on water management for Hyderabad City' was inaugurated recently; and
- (e) if so, the steps the Government proposes to take to implement the programme of water management system in urban areas?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA)

(a)to(c): 'Water Supplies' is a State subject under Article 246(3) of the Constitution and as such, planning, designing, implementation, operation & maintenance and management of water supply and sanitation system is the primary responsibility of the State Governments/Urban Local Bodies. The 10th Plan Document of the Planning Commission envisages the measures indicated in the Annexure to be taken by all urban local bodies in order to optimize the available water and conserve water sources for better water management system.

(d): Yes, Sir.

(e): In line with the measures suggested in the 10th Plan Document, as a part of water conservation measures, the Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation has written to all the State Governments to provide rain water harvesting structures in the buildings. The Central Public Works Department (CPWD) has also been requested to provide rain water harvesting structure in all Government Buildings located in different States and Union Territories. A notification has also been issued by this Ministry in July 2001 for modification of Building Bye-laws 1983 to ensure that the buildings in NCT of Delhi make rain water harvesting mandatory in all new buildings on plots of 100 Sqm. and above. The notification, inter-alia, suggests that all buildings having minimum discharge of 10000 litres and above per day shall incorporate waste water re-cycling system so that the re-cycled water may be used for horticultural purposes.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA USQ.NO. 2138 FOR 16.12.2003

THE MEASURES TO BE TAKEN BY ALL URBAN LOCAL BODIES TO OPTIMIZE THE AVAILABLE WATER AND CONSERVE WATER SOURCES FOR BETTER WATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM ENVISAGED IN THE 10TH PLAN DOCUMENT OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION:

- The leakage and unaccounted for water due to old and rusted pipes or poor maintenance of the system must be controlled and brought to minimum. Severe penalties should be levied on those found responsible for leakage and wastage of water.

- Re-use of treated sewage must be given priority in view of the fact that water is going to become more scarce in the near future. With tertiary treatment, water from treated sewage can be used even for air conditioning, industrial cooling and other non-potable uses.

- Use of potable water for purposes like washing of vehicles, maintenance of gardens etc. should be prohibited. Rain water harvesting should be implemented widely.

- The Central Ground Water Board is engaged in techniques for artificial recharge of ground water which should be implemented where conditions are appropriate. Similarly, exploitation of ground water in urban areas must be constantly monitored in order to prevent drying up of this important source.

- The water tariff should be fixed in such a way as to discourage excessive use of treated water. Water efficient systems like low volume flushing cisterns may be made mandatory so as to conserve water.