

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2279
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2005
WATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to give top priority to the improvement of water management system in urban areas besides sanitation and development of slums;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to implement the programme of water management system in urban areas?

Answer

MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a)to(c): Yes, Sir. This Ministry gives top priority for improvement of water management system in urban areas to ensure an efficient and sustained water supply system and services. Top priority is also attached to sector reforms, namely, institutional and financial reforms including capacity building to ensure efficient management of water supply system in urban areas. Model building bye-laws have been prepared and circulated to State Governments by the Town & Country Planning Organization to include water conservation measures such as rain water harvesting, reuse and recycle of waste water in urban areas. A manual on Operation & Maintenance of Water Supply Systems has been published by Ministry of Urban Development for planning and designing various components of water supply systems to help personnel involved in execution and maintenance of water supply projects. The Manual also deals with qualitative aspects of treated water for drinking purpose.

Ministry of Urban Development has already launched Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission and Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns for providing reform-linked central assistance to cities & towns. The main objective is to secure effective linkages between asset creation and asset management so that the water supply services created in the cities are not only maintained efficiently but also become self-sustaining over a period of time. Some of the mandatory reforms to be undertaken at ULB and/or state level are adoption of modern, accrual-based double entry system of accounting, introduction of system of e-governance using IT applications, levy of reasonable user charges with the objective that full cost of operation and maintenance or recurring cost is collected, etc. Some of the optional reforms to be implemented at the state and/or ULB level are revision of bye-laws to make rain water harvesting mandatory in all buildings, adoption of water conservation measures, structural reforms, public private partnership etc. These reforms are expected to improve water management system in urban areas.