

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
OCEAN DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4207

ANSWERED ON:25.08.2004

CONVERSION OF SALT WATER INTO DRINKING WATER

Mandlik Shri Sadashivrao Dadoba;Mane Smt. Nivedita;Yadav Shri Anirudh Prasad (Sadhu)

**Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Indian scientist has developed a technology to convert salt water into drinking water;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) per litre cost of such converted water;
- (d) whether the Government has any proposal to supply such water to the citizens of coastal areas; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

a) Yes, Sir. Scientist of some of the National Research Laboratories including those under the Ministry of science & Technology, Department of Ocean Development and Department of Atomic Energy have developed technology to convert sea water into drinking water. b) Two laboratory scale desalination plants, with a capacity of 500 litres per day and 5,000 litres per day, respectively, have been established, based on Low Temperature Thermal Desalination (LTTD) System suitable for some coastal states and Island territories of India. c) At present, the cost of production in the laboratory scale is approximately 90 paise per litre. However, the cost is expected to come down to around 25 paise per litre, once the 1,00,000 litres per day capacity desalination plant is commissioned at field.

(d)&(e) After the demonstration of LTTD technology at field, the same could either be transferred to the concerned Ministry or a suitable mechanism could be evolved by the Department for setting up of similar plants at appropriate locations in the coastal areas.