

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2894
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2009
WATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has decided to give top priority to water management system in urban areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the fund allocated for this purpose during the current financial year; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA ROY)

(a) to (c): Improvement of water management systems in urban areas in the country has been accorded high priority and reforms aimed at improving service delivery systems like recovery of user charges, adoption of modern accrual based double entry system of accounting, e-governance, reuse of recycled water are being actively promoted under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission towards this end. The Ministry of Urban Development is also promoting adoption of Service Level Benchmarks for water supply, which provides for norms relating to continuity, quality, coverage, adequacy, financial sustainability, grievance redressal and inclusiveness.

Even though funds are not separately allocated for water supply, it has received highest priority under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) as well as Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) which provides Central Assistance for urban infrastructure projects including water supply. Under JNNURM, 141 water supply projects at an estimated cost of Rs. 18540.17 crore and under UIDSSMT, 521 water supply projects at an estimated cost of Rs. 10473 crore have been sanctioned so far.

It is expected that the implementation of relevant urban reforms and service level benchmarks in urban water supply will lead to proper management of water supply systems in the urban areas.