

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4761

ANSWERED ON:25.08.2010

CONVERSION OF WASTE/SEA WATER INTO POTABLE WATER

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Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government grants funds under any scheme for conversion of waste water and sea water into potable water;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the funds allocated and released to various States during the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA)

(a) to (c): Schemes related to urban drinking water and rural drinking water are undertaken by the Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD), and Department of Drinking Water Supply (DoDWS) in the Ministry of Rural Development respectively. As per information provided by MoUD and DoDWS, central grant has not been released for conversion of waste water into potable water. MoUD has, however, informed that under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), the Projects for setting up of desalination plants within 20 kms from sea shore and other Urban areas predominantly facing Water scarcity due to brackish Water and non-availability of surface source are eligible for central grant to the tune of 80% of the approved project cost. MoUD has also informed that under JNNURM, a Detailed Project Report titled "Setting up of 100 million litres day (MLD) Sea Water Desalination Plant at Minjur" Chennai for conveying desalinated product from Minjur to the Chennai city has been approved at an estimated cost of Rs.87.80 crore in February, 2007. The project has been completed and commissioned. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has accorded approval for implementation for setting up of 100 MLD Sea Water Reverse Osmosis Desalination Plant at Nemmeli, Chennai, on 2/1/2009 and sanctioned a grant of Rs. 871.24 crore (100 %). Rs.52.68 crore have been released as 1st , 2nd and 3rd instalments by MoUD for the Sea water Desalination Plant at Minjur and Rs. 300 crore has been released as 1st instalment for setting up of 100 MLD Sea Water Reverse Osmosis Desalination Plant at Nemmeli, Chennai.

As per information furnished by the Central Ground Water Board, during the year 2005, ten Reverse Osmosis plants were provided by Ministry of Rural Development to Andaman & Nicobar Islands at a cost of about Rs. 1.31 crores.

Ministry of Earth Sciences has informed that the scheme on desalination plants in the Lakshadweep envisages setting up of a total of 9 desalination Plants developed by National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) in various islands of Lakshadweep. Towards implementation of the scheme, grants were released in two instalments. The initial fund to a tune of Rs.26.60 crores have been allocated for 3 islands (Agatti, Minicoy and Andrott) whereas an allocation of Rs.32.68 crores has been made for the remaining 5 islands (Chetlat, Kadmat, Kiltan, Kalpeni, and Amini).