

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:276

ANSWERED ON:15.03.2011

DRINKING WATER SUPPLY IN URBAN AREAS

Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Jeyadural Shri S. R.

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any expert committee constituted by the Union Government has examined issues pertaining to operation & maintenance of water supply systems in the urban areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a number of drinking water supply projects approved for implementation in various States have been delayed;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor alongwith the number of such projects approved, implemented and delayed during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and
- (e) the details of the funds allocated and utilised in such projects and the steps taken by the Union Government for ensuring expeditious completion of such projects?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT(SHRI KAMAL NATH)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.276 FOR 15-03-2011 REGARDING DRINKING WATER SUPPLY IN URBAN AREAS.

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b): The High Powered Expert Committee (HPEC) set up by the Ministry of Urban Development for estimating investment requirement for urban infrastructure services for next 20 years (2012-2031) has pointed out that maintenance of existing assets has remained largely unattended. It has estimated the expenditure on operation and maintenance (O&M) of urban water supply services at Rs 5.46 lakh crore. The O&M cost considered by the HPEC covers physical assets, staff, and related administrative costs. It takes into account both the cost of O&M of existing assets as well as of new assets that will be created over the 20-year period.

(c): Yes, Madam

(d) to (e) : Information regarding delayed water supply projects under the Urban Infrastructure and Governance component of Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) is at Annexure A and B. Information regarding delayed water supply projects under Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) is at Annexure C and D.

A 100 MLD Sea water reverse osmosis plant at Nemmeli has been sanctioned to augment water supply to Chennai at a total cost of Rs 908.28 crores in January 2009. The central assistance is Rs 871.24 crores of which an amount of Rs 300 crore has been released. The project is delayed.

The Ministry of Urban Development monitors projects through quarterly physical and financial progress reports (QPRs) submitted by the State Governments. The Central Sanctioning and Monitoring committee reviews progress of implementation of JNNURM every month. In addition, an annual review with State Secretaries (Urban Development) and Regional review meetings are also held.

Monitoring of projects is also done by independent review and monitoring agencies which report to the state level nodal agency.

The reasons for delay include delays in tendering, land acquisition, litigation, shortage of labour, inadequate planning during Detailed Project Report stage, improper land use, lack of inter-departmental co-ordination, etc.