

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:502
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2012
FLUORIDE MITIGATION CENTRE
Patil Shri C. R.

Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the State Government of Gujarat has submitted a proposal to establish Fluoride Mitigation Centre in Gandhinagar;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (c) the time by which the Fluoride Mitigation Centre is likely to be established in the State?

Answer

MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRIJAI RAM RAMESH)

(a) & (b): A detailed project proposal for establishment of Fluoride Mitigation Centre in Gandhinagar, Gujarat has been received by the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation in November 2011. However, in the meantime, Government in February, 2011 requested National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) Nagpur to establish a Centre of Excellence for Water Quality Problems with specific focus on fluoride and fluorosis.

(c): Government of India is assisting the State Governments technically and financially through the centrally sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) for provision of safe drinking water to the rural population in the country. Under NRDWP, separate allocation of 3% has been made to all States including Gujarat State, for water quality monitoring and surveillance. Government of Gujarat can utilize these funds to establish a Water Quality Cell which can also look after the aspects of fluoride mitigation in Gujarat State.