

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5968
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2013
WATER PURIFICATION PLANTS
Vijayan Shri A.K.S.

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

- (a) whether the Government has set up water treatment/purification plants in some coastal areas of the country for providing safe drinking water;
- (b) if so, the number of such plants established by the Government indicating their locations and the cost involved therein, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has determined/ ascertained per litre water purification cost;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State/UT wise; and
- (e) the details of beneficiaries and the cost at which they are being provided purified drinking water??

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI)

(a) to (e): Water supply is a State subject. Government of India supplements the efforts of the States/ UTs with technical and financial assistance under National Rural Drinking Water programme (NRDWP) to provide safe drinking water in rural areas including by setting up water treatment/purification plants in coastal areas. State Governments are empowered to plan, design, sanction, implement, operate and maintain rural water supply projects, including water treatment/purification plants in coastal areas and they maintain the relevant data. Public drinking water supply schemes are generally designed to provide safe drinking water to 100% population in the targeted habitations.

Ministry of Earth Sciences has informed that a demonstration thermal desalination plant has been set up in the North Chennai Thermal Power Station. In addition, 3 Low Temperature Thermal Desalination (LTTD) Plants of 1.0 lakh litres per day capacity were installed in the Lakshadweep islands of Kavaratti, Minicoy and Agatti. According to cost estimates made recently by an independent agency for LTTD technology, the operational cost per litre of desalinated water works out to be 19 paise.