

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3073

ANSWERED ON:10.02.2014

DEVELOPMENT OF SALT INDUSTRY

Jardosh Smt. Darshana Vikram; Kanubhai Patel Jayshreeben; Naranbhai Shri Kachhadia; Patil Shri C. R. ; Shukla Shri Balkrishna
Khanderao Balu Shukla

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Salt and Marine Research Institute and Salt Commissioner have developed model salt farms in Gujarat;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the financial assistance provided to such projects along with the proposals, if any, received from various State Governments for setting up of such model farms in their States, State-wise;
- (c) whether the State Government of Gujarat has sought 50 per cent assistance from the Union Government for the development of salt industry and welfare activities for agrarian community engaged in this industry and if so, the action taken thereon;
- (d) whether the State Government has proposed to enhance the share of Union Government in the modified NamakMajdoorAwasYojana; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and follow-up action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN)

- (a): Yes, Madam. However, Salt Commissioner has not developed any model salt farm in Gujarat.
- (b): The Central Salt and Marine Chemical Research Institute (CSMCRI) has established four model salt farms at Dharasana, Kharaghoda, Kuda and Malia-Hatina in Gujarat with the help of NGOs and the State Government. No financial assistance is provided to these projects by the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion. The Central Government received a request from the Government of Gujarat in February, 2012 suggesting Central Government funding for various activities related to salt industry and workers including model salt farms. In the absence of any concrete and specific proposal, no decision could be taken. The State Government has been informed. The Central Government has not received any further proposal from any State Government for setting up of model salt farms in their States. However, the Central Government has sanctioned three model salt farms at Nawa in Rajasthan, Ganjam in Odisha and Markanam in Tamil Nadu, in collaboration with the CSMCRI and respective State Governments. For such projects, one-third financial assistance is given by the Central Government and the remaining amount is to be shared by the respective State Government and CSMCRI. In respect of model salt farm in Markanam in Tamil Nadu, two-third of the cost is being borne by the Salt Commissioner's Organisation (SCO) and the remaining one-third of the cost by CSMCRI.
- (c): The Central Government had received a general reference from the Government of Gujarat in February 2012 suggesting that the Central Government may contribute 50% of the amount in the projects approved by the State Government for the better welfare activities and development in salt producing areas. In the absence of any concrete and specific proposal, no decision could be taken. The State Government has been informed.
- (d): Yes, Madam.
- (e): The Central Government received a request from the Government of Gujarat in February, 2012 proposing to enhance the share of the Central Government in the Modified NamakMajdoorAwasYojana to at least Rs.60,000/- per unit. However, the proposal of the State Government could not be accepted as it was not as per the approved schematic framework.