

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4413  
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2014  
ARSENIC FLUORIDE MITIGATION CENTRES  
Shekhar Shri Neeraj;Singh Shri Yashvir

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has received proposals from various States/UTs to set up Arsenic and Fluoride Mitigation Centres;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto;
- (d) whether the Government has also constituted Expert Committees to prepare terms of reference for setting up of Arsenic and Fluoride Mitigation Centres in States;
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the details of terms of reference proposed/ recommended by the said Committee; and
- (f) the action taken by the Government thereon?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (f) The Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation has received two proposals for setting up of Regional Fluoride Mitigation Centres one from Government of Gujarat (Gujarat Jalseva Training Institute) at Gandhinagar and another from National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad. In order to finalize the Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for techno-economic feasibility along with detailed Terms of Reference (ToR) regarding work profile, manpower, etc., an Expert Committee under the chairmanship of the Director, National Environmental Engineering Research Institute, Nagpur was formed and the Committee in its meeting held at Nagpur on 8/1/2014, discussed the draft DPRs submitted by both the agencies thoroughly and advised them to submit the revised DPRs to the Ministry based on certain recommendations /suggestions. These Institutes are expected to carry out extensive research and development in the country with regard to fluoride and fluorosis mitigation along with development/ evaluation of treatment technologies for removal/reduction of excess fluoride from drinking water sources.

In addition, in order to conduct extensive research and development activities on all drinking water quality related problems which interalia include excess arsenic and fluoride problems, the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation had already taken action and formed the International Centre for Drinking Water Quality and registered it under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 and fully funded by the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Government of India. Action has already been initiated by the Ministry for setting up this Institute at Kolkata.