

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4793
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2009
SURVEY BY ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK ADB
Basavaraj Shri Gangasandra Siddappa;Sule Supriya

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the findings of the survey published by Asian Development Bank (ADB) regarding sanitation, drinking water and infrastructure needs of Asian cities including cities of India;
- (b) the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in connection with needs of Indian cities?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA ROY)

(a) : The Asian Sanitation Data Book 2008, prepared jointly by the Asian Development Bank, Citynet, UNHABITAT and Veolia Environment, was based on a survey of 27 cities in Asia. The key findings of the survey are as under:

- (i) Lack of adequate sanitation and household wastewater treatment facilities is polluting ground and surface water.
- (ii) Over half of the cities were unable to report key health statistics, even though improved public health is a key expected outcome of adequate sanitation.
- (iii) Levels of open defecation remain fairly high (10-40%) in many cities. This poses risks to public health.
- (iv) Though almost all cities are aware of their sanitation problems, only a few cities have prepared sanitation action plans; and
- (v) In the majority of cities, sanitation fees are low and collection efficiencies are poor. As a result, service providers rely on government funding for capital investment as well as for operation and maintenance.

The Asian Sanitation Data Book 2008 recommends the following actions which the Government may consider depending upon the needs and funding sources of various Indian cities:

- (i) Initiate preparation of city sanitation plans, including setting targets for sanitation outcomes and coverage;
- (ii) Review operation and maintenance expenditures and cost recovery policies to ensure sustainability;
- (iii) Improve sanitation benchmark indicators and develop sanitation information management systems;
- (iv) Tap funds from private sector and revenue generating sources (e.g. user fees, selling of treated waste water for agriculture and industrial use) to supplement government funding for capital investments; and
- (v) Simplify institutional arrangements to strengthen accountability and avoid multiple- agency involvement.

(b) & (c) : The National Urban Sanitation Policy (NUSP) seeks to address the issue of safe sanitation through awareness generation; rating of 441 class I cities with population of one lakh and more; and extending support for formulation of State sanitation strategies and city sanitation plans. Projects related to sanitation are one of the areas under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) and Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) as well as the scheme for Infrastructure Development in Satellite Towns around Seven Mega Cities and the North Eastern Region Urban Development Programme(NERUDP).