

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1002  
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2015  
UNSAFE DRINKING WATER  
Gandhi Shri Dilip Kumar Mansukhlal

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Railways are aware of the fact that the lakhs of passengers are consuming unsafe drinking water at various railway stations in rural areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Railways thereon;
- (c) whether the Railways are considering any proposal to provide Reverse Osmosis (RO) system operating through solar power for purifying and filtering of contaminated water at railway stations to avoid water-borne diseases; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) to (d): It is Railway's endeavour to provide potable drinking water at all stations including in rural areas. Instructions exist for periodical check on quality of water and corrective action to be taken, if any deficiency is found. Reverse Osmosis (RO) process involves substantial rejection of water depending upon its quality and will require uninterrupted power supply. In view of above, provision of RO drinking water units has been planned at identified major stations on experimental basis based on passenger volume and techno-economic viability. There is no proposal, at present, to use solar power for RO plants.