

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4673
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2015
SWACHH BHARAT MISSION
Charitra Shri Ram

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the United States Agency of International Development (USAID) and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) have agreed to partner in the Swachh Bharat Mission;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether USAID has offered to provide knowledge exchange, identification and sharing of best practices for water and sanitation services in 500 cities and towns and provide targeted, demand driven technical assistance;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether BMGF proposed to offer technical and management support and assistance in the implementation of the Mission etc.; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b): In January 2015, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation signed two separate Memoranda of Cooperation with the Government of India to jointly support the formation of a Project Management Unit, to provide technical assistance and consulting support to the Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban).

(c) to (f): The purpose of both Memoranda are to support the Government's goals for providing sustainable sanitation solutions to the urban areas of the country and to eliminate open defecation. The Technical Assistance and consulting support provided through the Project Management Unit have the components of Project Management, Capacity Building & Knowledge Management, Support for IEC and Behaviour Change Communications, Strengthen Monitoring and Evaluation, Technology and Innovation Support for the MOUD, Knowledge Exchange and Identification and Sharing of Best Practices and Support Public-Private Partnerships.