

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4063

ANSWERED ON:13.08.2015

Expert Committee on Drinking Water and Sanitation

Bharathi Mohan Shri R.K.;S.R. Shri Vijay Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Government has set up a high powered technical expert group to review the ongoing programmes under the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) and Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the time by which the said Group is likely to submit its report to the Government;
- (c) whether due to insufficient release / allocation of funds under NRDWP and SBM, provisions of providing drinking water and sanitation facilities are being affected adversely, if so the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken to provide sufficient funds under these schemes?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
(SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV)

(a) & (b) The Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Government of India, in Sep. 2014, had constituted an expert Committee (a Standing Committee for 5 years) under the chairmanship of Dr. R.A. Mashelkar, Ex-Director General, Council of Scientific & Industrial Research, to advise the Ministry on technological aspects of drinking water and sanitation. The Committee recommended technologies like solar electrolytic de-fluoridation, nano-technology, capacitative de-ionization, reverse osmosis, ion-exchange, ultra-filtration, etc. for Water Treatment and solid & liquid waste management including composting, phytoid treatment of waste water, bio-digester toilet, toilet superstructure using different innovative materials for Rural Sanitation. These recommended technologies are suggestive in nature and the States may adopt any of them depending upon local conditions / requirements following due tendering procedures.

(c) & (d) The budget of National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) has been curtailed by Union Government by 72% in view of enhanced devolution of net tax revenue under 14th Finance Commission to the States from 32% to 42%. The curtailment of funds have resulted in proportionate decrease in allocation of funds to all States. However, the matter has been taken up with the Ministry of Finance and proposal has been submitted for total allocation of Rs.10,000 Crore in Supplementary demand stage.

Under Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin), an amount of Rs. 2,625 Crore have been allocated during the current financial year 2015-16. Additional funds have been sought under Supplementary Demands under SBM (G).