

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2192
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2014
DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION IN COASTAL AREAS
Mullappally Shri Ramachandran

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to provide drinking water and sanitation facilities along the coastal belt of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any proposal has been submitted by any of the State Governments for this purpose, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to secure financial assistance of international funding agencies for this purpose, if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)

(a) & (b). Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation provides technical and financial assistance to States assisting them to provide safe drinking water and sanitation facilities in the rural areas of the country including in the coastal belt. Power to plan, design, sanction and implement rural water supply projects including identification of location, is with the State Governments. Decision to implement safe drinking water projects in a location whether it is coastal or non-coastal, is taken by State Governments and approved in the State Level Scheme Sanctioning Committee.

Government of India also administers Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan(NBA) in the country, a comprehensive programme to ensure sanitation facilities in rural areas, including construction of toilets, with the main objective of eradicating the practice of open defecation and ensuring clean environment. The goal of NBA is to achieve 100% access to sanitation for all rural households by 2022. Under this programme a total of 607 district projects have been sanctioned so far and are under implementation. These projects also cover coastal belts.

(c) & (d) Following proposals had been received from States/ Union Territories (UTs) for provision of water supply in the coastal belt of the country:

1. The proposal to set up six nos. Desalination Plants on Low Temperature Thermal Desalination Technology had been received in the Ministry from Lakshadweep UT Administration. They have been advised to re-submit the proposal to Ministry of Home affairs (MHA) as they are the competent authority to accord approval for the same on 03.07.2014.
2. The Proposal for Integrated Water Management Project from Dadra and Nagar Haveli UT Administration had been received by the Ministry. However, in view of Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) directive Dadra and Nagar Haveli UT Administration vide their letter dated 22.05.14 had submitted the said proposal directly to MHA for appraisal and approval.
3. The proposal on Integrated Water Supply and Sanitation project in Kuttanad area of Kerala was received in the Ministry and the same was sent to Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Ministry of Finance for external funding. However, they have intimated that the project cannot be considered. The same has been communicated to the State Government of Kerala.