

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government on the directives;

(c) whether the Central Government in consultation with State Governments, proposes to take any further steps to meet the shortage of water in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court, a Technical Expert Committee (TEC) was set up by the Government to come out with research based solutions for addressing various water challenges in the country. TEC has identified low per capita availability of water as one of the 26 challenges to be addressed under Mission Winning, Augmentation and Renovation (WAR) for Water, launched in August 2009.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) All the States/Union Territories were requested to indicate 5 water challenges and locations thereof to address the problem. Out of 187 locations identified by the States/Union Territories, 67 of them were shortlisted by a sub-committee of TEC to address the water challenges. Enterprises and NGOs, involved with water technology, were invited to submit suitable proposals to address these challenges. The proposals so received were evaluated by a Committee of Experts and 13 projects were sanctioned to establish pilot water plants, 4 in Gujarat, 4 in Rajasthan, 2 in Tamil Nadu, and one each in Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Tripura. Low per capita availability is one of the water challenges being addressed to in these locations.

Projects under international cooperation in S&T

2921. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects approved during 2010-11 under international cooperation in science and technology with various partner countries, country-wise; and

(b) the total annual budget therefor, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Science & Technology has approved 209 projects during 2010-11 in science and technology with 23 countries and multilateral organizations. The country-wise number of projects with annual budget for 2010-11 is as follows:

Sl.No.	Country	Projects approved during 2010-11	Budget approved during FY 2010-11 (Rs. in Lakh)
1	Australia	19	788
2	Austria	15	131
3	Brazil	7	128
4	Bulgaria	3	9
5	Canada	7	245
6	Denmark	1	200
7	EU	12	1324
8	Finland	3	344
9	Germany	40	3730
10	IBSA	4	36
11	Italy	6	638
12	Japan	22	95
13	Mexico	1	2
14	Portugal	17	30
15	Russia	23	141
16	Slovenia	7	19
17	South Africa	1	138
18	Sweden	4	201
19	Switzerland	1	11
20	Taiwan	12	54
21	Tunisia	1	3
22	US	2	134
23	Vietnam	1	3
Total		209	8404