

submitted, which is circulated to different Ministries, departments and other stakeholders for comments.

(b) and (c) No separate fund has been earmarked for study, intellectual debates etc. A national level consultation in the name of 'Ganga Manthan' was organized on 7th of July, 2014 at New Delhi to facilitate interaction with various stakeholders including policy makers and implementers, academicians, environmentalists, spiritual leaders and NGOs. The event was organized by the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), a registered society under Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), implementing the river Ganga pollution abatement programme under National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA). It was aimed to provide a platform for various stakeholders to come together to discuss the issues and possible solutions to the challenging task of Ganga Rejuvenation. The views expressed by the stakeholders participating in 'Ganga Manthan' would be helpful for the preparation of a road map for the preparation of a comprehensive plan to rejuvenate the River Ganga. Crystallization of action plan, including framing of its salient features, time line and likely expenditure for different activities would be known only after the finalisation of the action plan for cleaning of river Ganga.

Providing drinking water to Rajasthan

†3532. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of schemes under which the Central Government is providing grants to make the drinking water available to the desert areas of Rajasthan; and

(b) whether Government has any proposal under consideration for those areas where no such schemes have been initiated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Under National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation is releasing grants to all the States/ UTs including Rajasthan to provide safe drinking water in rural areas of the country including desert areas of Rajasthan. 10% of the NRDWP fund is earmarked for Desert Development Programme (DDP) areas to tackle the extreme conditions of low rainfall and poor water availability with 100 % Central share.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.