

2014 by Hon'ble Prime Minister, which aims *inter-alia*, at keeping villages clean and attaining an open defecation free India by 2nd October, 2019. Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM) is an important component of Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin).

Funds for Solid and Liquid Waste Management activities, with cap of ₹ 7/12/15/20 lakh, may be made available to Gram Panchayats having upto 150/300/500 more than 500 households, on a Centre and State sharing ratio of 75:25. Under this component, activities like compost pits, vermin composting, common and individual biogas plants, low cost drainage, soakage channels/pits, reuse of waste water and system for collection, menstrual hygiene management segregation and disposal of household garbage etc can be taken up.

**Fluoride affected habitations in Medak, Telangana**

2364. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, as per the Integrated Management Information System, 120 rural habitations have been identified as fluoride affected in Medak district of Telangana during 2012-13;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what efforts the Ministry has made to make them fluoride-free habitations; and

(d) the details of technical and financial assistance provided to the State Government to deal with the above problem?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI CHAUDHARY BIRENDER SINGH): (a) and (b) As per data provided by the State Governments on the Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of the Ministry, as on 1.4.2013 *i.e.*, as reported by the erstwhile undivided Andhra Pradesh State, till the year 2012-13, there were 120 rural habitations affected with excess Fluoride in one or more drinking water sources in Medak district, which after bifurcation has come under jurisdiction of Telangana State.

(c) and (d) Rural water supply is a State subject. This Ministry supplements the efforts of the States by providing them with technical and financial assistance under the centrally sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) for providing safe and adequate drinking water facilities in rural areas of the country. Up to 67 per cent of the NRDWP funds allocated to States can be utilized for coverage and tackling water quality problems in the rural areas of the country. Further, 5%

of NRDWP total allocated funds are earmarked right at the beginning and allocated to those States facing problems of chemical contamination in drinking water and with Japanese Encephalitis and Acute Encephalitis Syndrome affected high priority districts. During the current financial year 2014-15, the Central share allocation for Telangana State under NRDWP is ₹186.79 crore (excluding funds under Management Devolution Index) of which as on 9/12/2014, an amount of ₹185.45 crore has already been released to the State. All State Governments including Telangana have been advised to provide fluoride free drinking water from surface water bodies through piped water supply schemes. As many of these projects take considerable time for completion, as a short term immediate solution, the Ministry has issued operational guidelines for setting up community water purification plants or provide safe drinking water through piped water supply schemes latest by March 2017, in approx. 20,000 arsenic, fluoride, heavy/toxic elements, pesticides/fertilizer affected rural habitations which are yet to be provided safe drinking water (as reported by the States on 1/4/2014), which *inter-alia* include 105 fluoride affected rural habitations in Medak district of Telangana State as on 1/4/2014.

#### **Betterment of drinking water and sanitation**

2365. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a number of schemes/programmes have been proposed/implemented for betterment of drinking water and sanitation in the country, especially in Assam;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government has fixed any target; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI CHAUDHARY BIRENDER SINGH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Both drinking water supply and sanitation are State subjects. However, for drinking water supply in rural areas, under National Rural Drinking Water Programme, the Government provides financial and technical assistance to States to supplement their efforts to provide adequate safe drinking water to the rural population. The States have been delegated the powers to select, approve and implement the drinking water supply projects. Further, the Ministry is administering a "Rural Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Project for Low Income States (RWSSP-LIS)" where coverage of rural population with piped water supply is low, covering four States of Assam, Bihar,