

Times of India published a report stating that there is daily shortage of water in 22 major cities of our country. Further, the demand for water supply may go up during summers due to various reasons such as increased uses for hygiene and personal use, house washing, water coolers and increased outdoor use for dust proofing, gardening, washing vehicles, etc.

In order to guide the water utilities of the States/Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in water conservation and management, Ministry has issued several guidelines such as follows:—

- (i) Manual on Water Supply and Treatment
- (ii) Manual on Operation & Management of Water Supply Systems
- (iii) Handbook on Service Level Benchmarking
- (iv) Guidance Notes for Continuous Water Supply
- (v) Advisory on Tariff Structure for Urban Water Supply and Sewerage Services, etc.
- (vi) Advisory on Conservation and Restoration of Water Bodies in Urban Areas
- (vii) Implementation of Amendments in Municipal Building By-laws for rain water harvesting and for reuse of recycled water.

(b) The ULBs and State Governments draw up plans to overcome water scarcity problems during the summer months. The Ministry of Urban Development supplements the efforts of State Governments/ULBs for water supply schemes by providing Additional Central Assistance (ACA) under various programmes from time to time. In the last 10 years, 361 water supply projects were completed at an estimated cost of ₹ 11,393 crores with ACA of ₹ 6,709 crores. These water supply projects are also mitigating the water scarcity problem in the summer months.

The New Urban Rejuvenation Mission (NURM) being formulated in the Ministry would also provide access to States/ULBs for ACA for implementing water supply projects in order to overcome water scarcity.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Production of thorium

1. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
 - (a) the total quantity of radioactive thorium produced, exported from and imported into India each year, since 2000; and

(b) the measures that are being taken by Government to boost production of thorium and the setting up of nuclear reactors to promote the generation of nuclear energy from domestically produced thorium?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) The details of the total quantity of radioactive thorium produced and exported from Indian Rare Earths Ltd. (IREL) since 2000 is shown below. IREL has not imported any radioactive thorium since 2000.

Year	Production of Thorium as Thorium Nitrate		Production of Thorium as Thorium Oxide		Production of Thorium as Thorium Oxalate	
	Production (t)	Export (t)	Production kg.	Export kg.	Production (t)	Export (t)
2000-01	240.000	0.000	578.00	0.00	411.000	0.000
2001-02	218.000	0.000	450.00	0.00	571.000	0.000
2002-03	104.000	0.000	600.00	0.00	574.000	0.000
2003-04	144.000	0.000	850.00	0.00	555.000	0.000
2004-05	180.000	0.000	250.00	0.00	1046.000	0.000
2005-06	165.000	0.000	0.00	0.00	3107.000	0.000
2006-07	120	0	0	0	3606	0
2007-08	120	0	0	0	3242	0
2008-09	125	0.66	600	100	3544	0
2009-10	132	1.25	600	51	3140	0
2010-11	74.2	5.2	350	0	3418	0
2011-12	123	4.05	350	0	3854	0
2012-13	35.8	2.63	50	0	452	0
2013-14	40.536	4.85	0	0	0	0
2014-15	80.4	9.1	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	1901.94	27.74	4678	151	27520	0

(b) Monazite Processing plant in Rare Earth division of IREL at Kerala was in operation during the period 1952 to 2004. On account of shortage of space at plant site

for construction of additional silos, large built up of inventory of thorium concentrate, structural deterioration of three silos and its proximity to Perier river along with associated environmental problems, monazite processing at RED was discontinued in the year 2004. During the above period about 1.46 lakh tons of Monazite was processed in the plant. Thorium values generated have been stockpiled in silos and RCC trenches on behalf of the Government of India for future use in the third stage nuclear power program of the country. The current stock pile is estimated to be nearly 8000 tons of Thorium. Indigenous efforts towards development and demonstration of Thorium-based reactor technology are in experimental stage. A 300 MWe Advanced Heavy Water Reactor (AHWR) using thorium based fuel has been designed and developed by Bhabha Atomic Research Centre. This reactor will serve as a technology demonstrator for the thorium fuel cycle technologies. This reactor requires, for its operation at full power, nearly ten tons of thorium per year. Hence considering the availability of thorium in the country there is no specific necessity of boosting production of Thorium at this stage.

Electricity for Tamil Nadu from Kudankulam Power Plant

2. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a persistent demand from the State of Tamil Nadu to allocate more electricity from Kudankulam nuclear power plant-1 to it out of the total 1000 MW electricity produced; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of Government to this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) A request from the Government of Tamil Nadu for allocation of additional power to be generated from Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project (KKNPP) Units 1&2 was received in the Ministry of Power. Government of Tamil Nadu was informed that power had already been allocated from KKNPP (2 X 1000 MW) amongst the beneficiary States/Union Territory including Tamil Nadu based on the guidelines for allocation of power from Central Sector Generating Stations. However, an additional 200 MW of unallocated power out of the total 300 MW of unallocated power from KKNPP has been allocated to Tamil Nadu from the date of commercial operation of the units, in addition to 925 MW already allocated on the firm basis to Tamil Nadu.

States/UTs share in atomic energy

3. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Central and States/UTs share in nuclear power generated in the country; and