

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation did not set up any committee to look into the contaminated drinking water supply to the rural people keeping in view the increasing number of jaundice cases in different parts of the country, especially in Odisha, as disease surveillance including Jaundice is in the mandate of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

However, the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Government of India has constituted a Standing Committee on technologies for drinking water and sanitation headed by Dr. R.A. Mashelkar, ex-Director General, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). The Committee inter-alia looks into all water quality treatment technologies including treatment of bacteriological contamination developed by various technology suppliers and submitted to the Ministry.

Shortage of drinking water

25. SHRI DILIPKUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that large parts of the country are facing acute shortage of drinking water with the onset of summer season;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to address the shortage of drinking water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. States of Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Haryana, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Karnataka and Maharashtra are facing shortage of drinking water. The Government of India has directed States on the onset of the summer season to take the following measures to mitigate the situation:

- (i) Immediate repair and maintenance of all water supply systems, hand pumps and bore wells should be done. If required sufficient number of mobile van with spare parts should be made available in the affected areas.
- (ii) There are a large number of private bore wells where ground water yield is

good. These should be hired by the district collectors and water should be equitably distributed to the affected population.

- (iii) Due to fall in water table, more riser pipes may be used to increase the yield of the hand pumps. Sufficient number of riser pumps may be used to increase the availability of drinking water in the affected areas.
- (iv) Wherever water reservoir / ponds are available, they may be used to increase the capacity of drinking water through piped water supply systems.
- (v) Wherever aquifer is good, new bore wells should be set up.
- (vi) Wherever the above possibilities are not suitable, water should be transported through water tankers and supplied to the affected population. Wherever water quality is not good mobile water treatment plants should be used to provide safe drinking water.

For implementing all the above activities, this Ministry has allowed the affected States to use flexi funds to the extent of 10% of National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) funds.

As on 21.04.2016, a total amount of ₹ 2172.43 cores is available with these drought affected States as Central share. This fund along with the State matching share may be utilized to take the above cited measures. This Ministry has also released ₹ 819.67 crores for all the States as part of 1st installment of NRDWP for the year 2016-17. In addition, States may also utilize 15% of Operation and Maintenance funds available under NRDWP to meet the requirement. The States have also been asked to submit daily report on the mitigations measures taken by them to this Ministry.

Special status for rural water supply schemes

26. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

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

(a) whether Government has received proposals from the State Governments including Maharashtra seeking grant of special status for Rural Water Supply Schemes in order to solve problems of drinking water;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;

(c) the time by which Government proposes to grant special status to the concerned States to provide additional assistance for water supply schemes under NRDWP;