

Scarcity of Drinking Water

2902. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE:

SHRI SAMBAJI CHHATRAPATI:

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

(a) whether several parts of the country has faced the scarcity of drinking water recently especially in Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra and if so, what steps are taken to ensure that States have sufficient clean drinking water with them to supply to the people; and

(b) whether any short term and long term solutions has already been taken by Government or it is planning to take to ensure regular availability of clean drinking water and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI): (a) Yes, Sir. Based on the predictions of Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), this Ministry had taken immediate steps to tackle the scarcity of drinking water arising due to deficit monsoon as per the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP). States including Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra have been requested to prepare contingency plan as per the SOP and execute the same to mitigate the scarcity of water. This Ministry time to time issues advisory to the affected States/UTs regarding the mitigation measures to be taken by the States in the wake of drought/drought like situation. In a latest advisory to State dated 04.11.2016, the States have been asked to take the following measures for tackling the crisis of drinking water in the affected rural areas:

- (i) Hiring of diesel generator sets, pumps;
- (ii) Hiring of water tankers for emergency water supply to affected sites subject to recoupment from future releases under calamity funds;
- (iii) Procurement of sodium hypochlorite, halogen tablets, bleaching powder for proper disinfection;
- (iv) Hiring of sufficient vehicles fitted with water treatment plants to provide onsite safe drinking water;
- (v) Keeping adequate stock of spare parts that may be required for urgent repair and restoration works both for piped water supply schemes and hand pumps (tube wells);
- (vi) Raising platforms of hand pumps;

- (vii) Procurement of polyvinyl chloride water tanks for supply of drinking water in relief camps subject to recoupment from future releases under National Disaster Response Fund/State Disaster Response Fund.

(b) As a long term solution, this Ministry has directed the States to cover the rural households with piped water supply. This Ministry has prepared a Strategic Plan for providing drinking water supply in rural areas of the country for the period 2011-2022. By 2022, the goal is to cover 90% of rural households with piped water supply. To achieve this, the States have been advised to pool more funds from State plan in view of the enhanced devolution of funds under the Fourteenth Finance Commission and to arrange external assistance or loan from borrowing agencies over and above the funding from the Ministry under National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP). As short term in respect of arsenic and fluoride affected habitations, the Ministry has advised the States to provide community water purification plants.

Funds to States for controlling pollution

2903. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has released funds to various States to check the level of pollution in their respective States and if so, the details thereof during the last two years and the current year, State-wise; and

(b) the details of works undertaken with the help of funds allocated for controlling pollution and whether Government has undertaken any review of the said works and if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE): (a) and (b) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change is implementing a number of schemes for control and prevention of pollution which include National River Conservation Programme (NRCP), National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP), National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Eco-systems (NPCA), Assistance for Abatement of Pollution and Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) and World Bank Aided Capacity Building and Industrial Pollution Management (CBIPM) project under which financial assistance is provided to the State implementing agencies. State-wise details of the funds released during the last two years and the current year under various schemes are given in Statement-I (*See* below).

Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is also implementing various projects aimed at control and prevention of water, air and noise pollution in association with State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and Pollution Control Committees (PCCs).