Setting up of desalinisation plants

1534. SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to promote desalinisation of water in States where ever possible;

(b) the States which can be benefitted from desalinisation;

(c) the cost of setting up of a desalinisation plant; and

(d) the assistance required, if any, from any other country for setting up of desalinisation plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) Drinking water supply is a State subject and Government of India assists States by providing financial and technical assistance to provide potable water to rural population through centrally sponsored scheme Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM). Powers to plan, approve, and implement rural water supply schemes are vested with States.

(b) Coast States/UTs with access to seawater can set up the desalination plant.

(c) The cost of desalination plant depends on a number of factors *inter alia* which includes technology used and cost of electricity. The actual cost of setting up of a desalination plant can be discovered through tendering process.

(d) The States can seek assistance from other country as per laid down procedures.

Deadline for cleaning of river Ganga

1535. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether the deadline for cleaning up the river Ganga has been revised the second time from 2019 to 2020 and finally to 2021; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay and extension thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) and (b) Government of India is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in addressing the challenges of pollution of river Ganga by providing financial and technical assistance.

So far, a Total of 305 projects have been sanctioned at an estimated cost of ₹28, 613.75 crore, out of which 109 projects have been completed and made operational; rest of the projects are at various stages of implementation.

The pace of these projects have gathered momentum and all efforts are being made to complete these projects well within the respective timelines.

Cleaning of rivers is a continuous process; close monitoring and efforts are being made to complete all the sanctioned projects for river Ganga by March 2022, creating required sewage treatment capacity.

Implementation of JSA

1536. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA) has been implemented all over the country:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of targets set under the scheme and the present stage of implementation of the Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) and (b) Government of India has launched Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA) in 256 water-stressed districts of the country. The State-wise details showing the number of districts covered under JSA is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) As JSA is a water conservation campaign through community mobilisation and convergence, as such no targets have been set under JSA. This Campaign aims to promote water conservation and water resource management by focusing on accelerated implementation of five target interventions, viz. water conservation and rainwater harvesting, renovation of traditional and other water bodies/tanks, reuse and recharge of bore wells, watershed development and intensive afforestation.

JSA is carried out in two phases. Phase I was carried out from 1st July, 2019 to 30th September, 2019 for all States. For States/UTs with retreating monsoon namely Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Puducherry, the campaign is also continued from lst October, 2019 to 30th November, 2019 in Phase-II.