

(c) the number of sea-water desalination plants set up under Government sector in the country for distribution of drinking water; and

(d) whether Government mulls setting up sea-water desalination plants for distribution of drinking water, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) As reported by Bureau of Indian Standards, the Indian Standard IS 16240:2015 on 'Reverse Osmosis (RO) Based Point-of-Use (PoU) Water Treatment System - Specification' specifies the chemical reductions (performance requirement of RO system) in terms of maximum allowable product water level for Arsenic as 0.01 mg/litre and for Fluoride as 1.0 mg/litre. Further, the manufacturer shall explicitly mention a caution on the label of the RO system that the 'RO system is not recommended for Arsenic level above 0.1 mg/litre and Fluoride level above 8.0 mg/litre'.

(b) The conventional water filtration system may not remove Arsenic and Fluoride contamination in drinking water supply and specific intervention like activated Alumina, use of nano particles and reverse osmosis, etc. may be required.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Earth Sciences has informed that National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) has developed and demonstrated 3 Low Temperature Thermal Desalination (LTTD) plants and work for setting up of another 6 LTTD plants in Lakshadweep has commenced. Water supply is a State subject and power to plan, approve and implement water supply schemes including setting up of desalination plants for drinking water, are with respective State Governments.

Potable drinking water to households

891. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even after the launch of Jal Shakti Mission, drinking water has remained a distant dream for many villages in the country which face water scarcity for years together and use contaminated water that too after walking huge distances on foot; and

(b) if so, steps that Government proposes to take in the next year to ensure that potable drinking water reaches every household of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) Jal Shakti Abhiyan was launched in water stressed districts of the country to spread awareness among all stakeholders about compelling need of water conservation through five targeted intervention viz. water conservation & rainwater harvesting, renovation of traditional and other water bodies/ tanks, reuse and recharge of bore wells, watershed development and intensive afforestation.

As reported by States/ UTs, as on 14.09.2020, with sources at a reasonable distance, 79.16% rural habitations having 77.69% population have provision of minimum 40 litre per capita per day (lpcd) of potable drinking water and 17.69% rural habitations having 19.34% population have service level of less than 40 lpcd potable water, whereas 3.15% > rural habitations having 2.97% > population with water sources having quality issues.

(b) To enable every rural household in the country to have potable water through Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) by 2024, Government of India, in partnership with States, is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)-Har Ghar Jal with an estimated outlay of ₹ 3.60 lakh crore.

Mobilisation at funds under MGNREGA and CAMPA for JSM

892. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government followed a convergence approach and mobilised funds under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Generation Act (MGNREGA) and the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) for the Jal Shakti Mission (JSM); and

(b) if so, the detail of funds spent and mobilized under MGNREGA and CAMPA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) The Operational Guidelines for the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission provide for convergence of funds at village level under different schemes/ programmes inter alia which includes Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) and Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) fund. The States/ UTs have planned for the same and included in their Annual Action Plan (AAP).