

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 1973

ANSWERED ON:27.07.2017

Water Management

PRITAM GOPINATH MUNDE

- (a) whether India needs to improve its water management regimes across the country to attract foreign investments and technologies and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether India has a big potential for developing water in various sectors including sewerage treatment plants to irrigation for the agricultural sector and the increase of water use in industries;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to harness this potential;
- (d) whether current water usage in India is not equitable with some agricultural crops consuming higher rate of water; and
- (e) if so, whether there is a need to streamline the usage of water and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:-

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION

(DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) to (c) India is continuously improving the management of its water resources by utilizing in-house resources as well as through externally aided projects. This Ministry has also signed Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) with various countries, for cooperation in water management.

India has a big potential for developing water in various sectors such as water treatment, waste water treatment, desalination, re-use of water and recycling of water. Industries have been advised to install sewage treatment plants (STPs) and use treated water. Also, use of treated sewage water by thermal power plants situated within a stipulated distance from the sewage treatment plant has been made mandatory.

Water being a State subject, States take the lead in reuse and recycle of water. This Ministry provides financial assistance to encourage the State Governments for efficient management of water resources and for enhancing capacity building of officers/engineers of State and Central Government.

(d) & (e) There is need to streamline usage of water through appropriate crop alignment and water saving technologies. Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) aims at enhancing physical access of water on farm and expanding cultivable area under assured irrigation, improving on-farm water use efficiency, sustainable water conservation practice etc.

For water saving, micro irrigation is being promoted under “Per Drop More Crop” component of PMKSY. States have also been advised to adopt micro irrigation systems for water guzzling crops. Central Assistance is being provided to the State Governments for ongoing irrigation schemes for on-farm development, micro-irrigation, farm drainage, reclamation of waterlogged areas under “Har Khet Ko Pani” component of PMKSY.

For crop diversification, a Crop Diversification Programme is being implemented under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).
