

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:161
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2007
CENTRAL ASSISTANCE FOR METRO WATER SUPPLY
Jai Prakash Shri

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether due to acute shortage of drinking water in some of the metro cities of the country, the people are forced to buy drinking water;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has received some proposals for central assistance from the States;
- (c) if so, the steps taken to provide assistance; and
- (d) further steps contemplated in this matter?

Answer

MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a)to(d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 161 FOR 9.3.2007 REGARDING CENTRAL ASSISTANCE FOR METRO WATER SUPPLY.

(a): This Ministry has not received any official report about acute shortage of drinking water forcing people to buy it for consumption. However, there are news reports about people buying water in various cities for variety of reasons. As per information collected from various State level agencies/ Urban Local Bodies of 35 metropolitan cities in 2003, the per capita water supply is in excess of national norm of 150 litres per capita per day in respect of 12 metro cities, whereas, it is less than the national norm in case of balance 23 metro cities.

Besides, Urban water supply and sanitation is a State subject and it is the responsibility of the State Governments/ULBs to plan, design, execute, operate and maintain water supply, sanitation and urban development projects with State plan funds.

(b)to(d): The Government launched the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) in December, 2005, under which Additional Central Assistance (ACA) is made available for development of Urban Infrastructure including water supply schemes in 63 selected cities including 35 metro cities.

The Ministry has so far received 106 Project proposals for improving/augmenting water supply from 27 metropolitan cities for financial assistance under JNNURM.

The proposals were examined and 60 water supply projects have already been sanctioned by the Central Screening and Monitoring Committee (CSMC) for metro cities at an estimated cost of Rs.5593.34 crore.

Water Supply Projects have been accorded the highest priority under JNNURM. The State Governments are encouraged to send proposals of water supply and for waste water/sewage collection, treatment and disposal projects for protecting the quality of the natural water bodies.