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Title: Need to implement water supply projects in Atal Mission cities.

SHRI V. ELUMALAI (ARANI): Sir, the cities and towns in Tamil Nadu face a crucial water crisis. The State Government of Tamil Nadu has already submitted Annual Action Plan for 2015-16 under Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation Mission with a project outlay of Rs. 3249 crore to the Ministry of Urban Development. After due assessment, it was found that only 48 per cent of urban households in Tamil Nadu are having water supply connections while water supply is 81 litres per capita per day as against the norm of 135 lpcd. Only 27 per cent of the urban households are connected to sewerage network capturing only 26 per cent of total sewerage being generated. Water supply in the 27 Atal Mission cities in Tamil Nadu ranged from a low of 30 litres per capita per day in Pallavaram to 135 lpcd in Salem.

Accordingly, seven of the 12 cities of Tamil Nadu included in the Smart Cities Mission have been proposed for water supply related schemes since in none of these cities water supply is as per the norm of 135 lpcd. These cities are Chennai with the present water supply of 58 lpcd, Coimbatore with 58 lpcd, Vellore with 60 lpcd, Erode with 64 lpcd, Madurai with 76 lpcd, Thanjavur with 88 lpcd and Tiruppur with 110 lpcd. The rest of the smart cities can be covered in subsequent years.

Atal Mission cities in Tamil Nadu account for a population of 1.37 crore as against the total population of 7.20 crore of the State. It is the need of the hour to ensure 100 per cent coverage of all the urban households with water supply and sewerage network services in the next four to five years besides enabling water supply at 135 lpcd.

I, therefore, urge that, as demanded by the State Government, water supply projects should be implemented in 11 of the 27 Atal Mission cities with an investment of Rs. 3147 crore besides investing Rs. 34 crore for providing sewerage network services in Vailankanni and Rs. 69 crore for developing parks and green spaces in all the 27 Mission Cities.