GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1694

ANSWERED ON 18.12.2023

RECYCLED WATER

1694. SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quantity and quality of water to be recycled has been analyzed to become 'Aatma Nirbhar' or self-sufficient in its supply; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) & (b) Water being a State subject, the aspects related to water resources are studied, planned, funded and executed by the State Governments themselves as per their own resources and priorities. Waste Water Treatment is usually implemented at sectoral level or by urban/local bodies. The Central Government also provides technical and financial support for treatment of waste water.

Water demand of the country can be supplemented by treatment of sewage water to achieve the goal of self sufficiency (Atma Nirbharta) both in quantity and quality. Depending on the degree of treatment and water quality requirements of different sectors, the treated water can potentially be used in industries, agricultural, construction sectors, thermal power plants, refineries etc.

As per the Central Pollution Control Board report published in 2021, sewage generation from urban areas is estimated at 72,368 MLD, whereas the total treatment capacity available is 31,841 MLD(44% of the sewage generation).

The National Water Policy-2012 mandates recycle and reuse of water as general norm and advocates treatment to specified standards before reuse of waste water. It provides for properly planned tariff system to incentivize reuse of treated water in various sectors including industries, agriculture and others. It mentions that reuse of urban waste water from kitchen and bathrooms, after primary treatment should be encouraged in toilets ensuring no human contact.

National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) under Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, in partnership with Indo-European Water Partnership has developed a National Framework for the reuse of treated waste water. The framework is meant to develop suitable market and business models for reuse of treated waste water. The framework identifies agriculture as a potential area where reuse of treated water can be explored. The framework envisages and promotes adoption of safer irrigation practices towards use of treated water by farmers in peri-urban and rural areas.

Under Namami Gange Programme, Government of India is providing financial and technical support to the some of the State Governments for the development of sewage treatment plants for the treatment of black water. Under Namami Gange Programme 194 projects have been approved for the development / rehabilitation of 5205 MLD STP Capacity. Out of these 109 projects have been completed thereby creating / rehabilitating 1791 MLD STP capacity.

The Ministry of Jal Shakti has issued the guidelines for control and regulation of groundwater extraction with pan-India applicability was notified by the Ministry on 24.09.2020 and amendments dated 29.03.2023. The guidelines advice Recycle/Reuse of water in industries and infrastructure projects. Infrastructure projects drawing groundwater 20KLD or more are required to install STP and use the treated water for greenbelt development/ washing of cars etc. All industries abstracting ground water in excess of 100 KLD are required to undertake biennial water audit, which should recommend reduction in water consumption through recycle/ reuse.

As per Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) [SBMG] guidelines treated grey water is recommended for non potable uses such as irrigation, pisiculture, construction and cleaning activities, among others. However, recycled water would help in reducing the pressure on potable water in these sectors to some extent by planned use.

Government of India is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) – Har Ghar Jal, since August, 2019, in partnership with States, to make provision of potable tap water supply in adequate quantity, of prescribed quality and on regular & long-term basis to every rural household by 2024. As on 15.12.2023, out of 19.24 Crore rural households in the country, 13.82 Crore (71.82%) households are reported to have tap water supply in their homes. States/UTs have been advised to undertake testing of water quality on a periodic basis i.e. once in year for chemical and physical parameters, and twice in a year for bacteriological parameters and take remedial action wherever necessary, to ensure that the water supplied to households is of prescribed quality. To enable States/ UTs to test water samples for water quality, and for sample collection, reporting, monitoring and surveillance of drinking water sources, an online JJM – Water Quality Management Information System (WQMIS) portal has been developed.

AMRUT was launched on June 25, 2015, in 500 selected cities across the country covering around 60% of the Urban Population. Sewerage and Septage Management Sector is one of the components under AMRUT. Under sewerage and septage management sector, States/UTs have taken up 865 projects of which 673 projects have been completed. This is expected to lead to development of around 6232 MLD treatment capacity of Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs). To carry forward the objective of universal coverage of water supply from 500 cities to about 4,902 statutory towns, AMRUT 2.0 has been launched on 1st October 2021. AMRUT 2.0 will focus on making the cities 'self-reliant' & 'water secure'. Providing universal coverage of sewerage & septage management in 500 AMRUT cities is other major focus of AMRUT 2.0