

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4116
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.08.2017

Leakage in Drinking Water Project

4116. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government proposes to implement programmes to prevent and control the leakage of safe drinking water and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Union Government proposes to provide financial assistance to the States for the maintenance of water supply schemes/projects sponsored by the Union Government;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that the leakage of drinking water exceeds the permissible limit due to the lack of proper maintenance of water supply schemes/projects; and
- (e) if so, the details of the action taken in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
(SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI)

(a) to (c) Under National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), States can spend up to 15% of the total allocated fund along with State's matching share towards Operation & Maintenance (O&M) of rural water supply schemes towards expenditure made on running, repair & replacement costs of drinking water supply projects. Accordingly, this fund can be effectively used for prevention and control of leakage of safe drinking water. In addition to the allocation made under NRDWP, the funds provided to States / Gram Panchayats under 14th Finance Commission Grant can also be utilised for upkeep of drinking water supply assets which would prevent leakage of water from the carriers.

(d) & (e) The Ministry is in the process to deploy National Level Monitors (NLMs) to the field to assess the functionality status of Piped Water Supply Schemes so that exact picture of the leaking assets could be established. In addition to this, States are advised to take up massive Information, Education and Communication (IEC) campaign on water management matters. Preventing leakage and raising concern on water wastage / pilferage is also one of the agenda of IEC activities under the support component of allocation.