

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4815**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.03.2018

**Research Projects on Water Quality Research**

4815. SHRI R. PARTHIPAN:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether United Kingdom and India have launched joint research projects on 'Water Quality Research' and 'Energy Demand Reduction in Built Environment' recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether these projects aim to deliver mutual benefits and research solutions not only to UK and India but also to address shared global sustainable development goals and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether it aims to equip local communities, policymakers, regulators and businesses with information and solutions they need to secure provision of clean water, rejuvenate rivers and restore ecosystem; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) & (b) Ministry of Science and Technology have informed that India and United Kingdom (UK) have launched joint research projects on 'Water Quality Research' and 'Energy Demand Reduction in Built Environment' in February, 2018. 8 projects to be supported under the 'Water Quality Research' programme relate to Optical sensor platform for water quality monitoring, Fate and management of emerging contaminants, Rainwater harvesting and its impacts, Vembanad lake rehabilitation, Remediation of groundwater arsenic in Ganga river basin, Sensors & treatment technologies for freshwater systems, Pathways & evolution of pollutants, and Antimicrobial resistance & pollutants. Besides, 4 projects to be supported under the 'Energy Demand Reduction in the Built Environment' programme relate to Residential building energy demand reduction, Zero peak energy building design, Integrated urban model for built environment energy research and Community-scale energy demand reduction in India. These projects will be supported by Department of Science and Technology (DST), India in collaboration UK's Natural Environment Research Council (NERC), Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) and Social Research Council (ESRC).

(c) to (e) The research projects aim to deliver mutual benefits and research solutions to the two countries, and also address shared global sustainable development goals in the areas of clean water and clean energy. The Water Quality Research Programme would provide better understanding of the sources and fate of different pollutants, which would enable development of appropriate technologies and management strategies. These projects would also enable development of effective techniques to address water quality issues and securing the provision of clean water, rejuvenation of rivers and other water bodies, and should bring benefits to both people and the environment.

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