

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER & SANITATION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.6401
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.04.2018

Piped Drinking Water to Soldiers

6401.SHRI B. SRIRAMULU:
SHRIMATI ANJU BALA:

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

- (a) whether the Government is working on an ambitious proposal to provide piped drinking water to soldiers especially at border outposts in all border States and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has asked border States to send proposals containing estimates and implementation plan and if so, the details thereof along with responses of the State Governments in this regard;
- (c) whether this massive project is to be executed by your Ministry in joint collaboration with the Ministry of Home Affairs, with the latter providing funds and the former the technical expertise for the same and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has conducted any survey to ascertain the number of border outposts in the country manned by BSF, SSB and ITBP personnel in difficult terrains in J&K, Punjab, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Bengal and the north-eastern States and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the progress made and funds allocated in this regard by the Government so far?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE FOR DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
(SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA)

- (a) Yes Madam. The Government is working on the proposal to provide drinking water facilities / infrastructure in Border Out Post and nearby habitations. Ministry of Home Affairs has taken this initiative and this Ministry has been given the role of technical examination of the proposals submitted by the Border States.
- (b) Yes, this Ministry has requested all Border States to prepare the estimates of drinking water projects in border out posts and nearby habitations and send the same for examination. So far, state governments of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, West Bengal, Nagaland have submitted proposals / estimates for drinking water infrastructure in Border Out Posts. State Government of Tripura had submitted the status of coverage of drinking water infrastructure in Border Out Posts.
- (c) The role of this Ministry is to undertake technical examination of the proposals submitted by the Border States. As asked by Ministry of Home Affairs, after receipt and examination of proposals from all border states, a comprehensive proposal is to be submitted to them for providing funds.
- (d) Central Government proposes to provide drinking water for security forces at Border Out Posts (BOPs). All Border States have been requested to take up drinking water project in those BOPs where such facilities are lacking. The expenditure for same will be considered by government subject to guidelines as and when such proposal are made by State Governments.
- (e) Since proposals from some of the Border States are still awaited, the comprehensive proposal for funding by Ministry of Home Affairs has not been completed so far for providing drinking water facility in border out posts. Further, the Ministry is also coordinating with states who have submitted proposals to clarify / sort out issues in the proposals submitted by them.