

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOKSABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.43
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2019**

REDUCTION IN WATER CONSUMPTION

***43. SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:
DR. PRITAM GOPINATH MUNDE:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways has joined hands with the United Nations Environment Programme to draw out a roadmap for achieving 20 per cent reduction in water consumption at rail establishments and if so, the details thereof along with the annual water consumption of the Railways and the average bill thereof;**
- (b) whether the Railways does not have centralised data on the water usage by its zones and production units and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Railways is taking a huge step towards the preservation of water and rolling out a new policy that is likely to be game-changer and if so, the details and the salient features thereof;**
- (d) whether the Railways has decided to encourage private players to set up water treatment plants specifically for this purpose and if so, the manner in which this will ensure that water is not wasted and the annual water bill of the Railways is reduced; and**
- (e) the services and areas where this policy will be implemented and the extent to which the new water policy will be promoting a better water management system that will curtail water wastage and consumption?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COAL, FINANCE AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 43 BY SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL AND DR. PRITAM GOPINATH MUNDE TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 06.02.2019 REGARDING REDUCTION IN WATER CONSUMPTION

(a) No, Madam. Indian Railways have not signed any Memorandum of Understanding/agreement with United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Till now, Indian Railways had only exchanged a Letter of Intent with UNEP for exploring the opportunity and developing, and, detailing a joint cooperation to achieve the common objectives in the field of environment, which included formulating Railway sector specific road map for achieving 20% reduction in water consumption. UNEP is yet to communicate the modalities in the matter.

(b) Railways do not have any centralized data for water usage because of different sources of water supply like Municipal Water Supply, underground pumping, supply from hand-pumps, rainey wells etc.

(c) & (d) Railways had rolled out Indian Railway Water Policy 2017 in order to promote water use efficiency and thus preservation of water which include preparation of Water Management plans, use of water efficient fittings and fixtures, introduction of automatic valves, use of Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA), promoting rain water harvesting, installation of Water Recycling Plants by Railways as well as on Build Own Operate Transfer (BOOT) basis. Measurement and accountal of water consumption, differential tariff of commercial and residential

water, Waste Water Management are other key areas where Railways intends to do concrete work to minimize the wastage of water and reduce the cost incurred on water consumption.

(e) Indian Railways Water Policy 2017 has been issued to all Zonal Railways and Production Units on Indian Railways for implementation. These efforts are programmed to contribute towards India's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) of 20% reduction in water consumption by the year 2030.
