

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2795
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, 2016**

DESALINATION PLANTS FOR COASTAL CITIES

2795. SHRI SACHIN RAMESH TENDULKAR:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has considered procuring desalination plants for coastal cities hit by drought for urban, industrial and agricultural purposes?**
- (b) whether any study has been conducted on the cost-benefit analysis of the desalination plants; and**
- (c) whether the Ministry has consulted with foreign Government where this system is in operation?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
(SHRI. Y. S. CHOWDARY)**

- (a) No, Sir. The Ministry of Earth Sciences has no proposal for procuring desalination plants. However, National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), an autonomous Institute under Ministry of Earth Sciences, has indigenously designed, developed and demonstrated desalination plants for conversion of sea water into potable water based on Low Temperature Thermal Desalination (LTTD) technology. The LTTD is a process under which the warm surface sea water is flash evaporated at low pressure and the vapour is condensed with cold deep sea water. This technology is found suitable for the Lakshadweep islands.**
- (b) No, Sir. However, the cost per liter of desalination would depend on the technology used and cost of electricity which varies from place to place. According to the cost estimates made by an independent agency for LTTD technology, the operational costs per litre of desalinated potable water is about 61 paise for island based plants.**
- (c) Does not arise.**
