

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1923
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.08.2021

RADIATION TECHNOLOGY IN TREATING SEWAGE WASTE

1923. Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has undertaken any study regarding impact of radiation technology for treatment of municipal sewage on human beings;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Government has implemented this technology in certain parts of the country without fully ascertaining the impact of this technology on human beings; and
- (d) If so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (Dr. JITENDRA SINGH):

(a)&(b) Yes, Sir. Hygienisation of sewage sludge using gamma radiation is established as a safe technology. It eliminates pathogens in the sludge and makes it safe for its disposal. Several experiments have shown that the hygienised sludge enriched with beneficial micro organisms has potential to be a good organic fertiliser. It may be mentioned that the same technology is used for sterilisation of medical products and preservation of food, which are directly used by human being.

(c)&(d) Government has ascertained the impact of this technology before implementation which is primarily aimed at protecting public health and environment.
