

Availability of Drinking Water in Villages

4173. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:
SHRI LALL BABU RAI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the position in regard to availability of drinking water in villages of Gujarat and Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of schemes received from the State Governments during the Seventh Five Year Plan indicating the number of schemes out of them cleared;

(d) the funds allocated to the States for this purpose during the Eighth Plan;

(e) the target fixed in this regard; and

(f) the funds allocated for this purpose for the year 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI HARJIBHAI PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Out of 4911 villages in Gujarat and 9199 villages in Bihar identified as problem villages in the survey of the year 1985, 4902 problem villages in Gujarat and 9199 problem villages in Bihar have been covered by providing at least one source of safe drinking water as on 31.3.94. The remaining 9 problem villages in Gujarat are likely to be covered by the end of 1994-95.

(c) The number of schemes received and sanctioned by the Central Government during the VII Five Year Plan in respect of Gujarat and Bihar is as under:-

Gujarat	-	2,552 schemes
Bihar	-	16,695 schemes

(d) The funds allocated to Gujarat and Bihar under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) is as under:-

(Rs. in lakhs)		
Year	Gujarat	Bihar
1992-93	1633.00	2999.00
1993-94	2656.00	4856.00
1994-95	3039.00	5469.00
Total:	7328.00	13324.00

The allocation of funds for the remaining two years of the VIII Plan will be decided in the respective years. It is not decided in advance.

(e) 914 villages in Gujarat and 8714 villages in Bihar have been covered in 1992-93 and 1993-94. A target of coverage of 1500 habitations in Gujarat and 10000 habitations in Bihar has been fixed for the 1994-95. The target for 1995-96 and 1996-97 will be decided on year-to-year basis depending on the outlay for these years.

(f) The allocation and release of funds under Accelerated Rural Water

Supply Programme for the year 1994-95
is as under:—

(Rs. in lakhs)		
State	Allocation	Release
Gujarat	3039.00	1519.00
Bihar	5469.00	2734.50

[English]

Electricity from Algae

4174. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a University in U.K. has developed a technique of generating electricity from Algae;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the efforts made/being made by the Government to generate electricity from Algae?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir, the Government is aware of the development of Algae based IC engine driven process for production of electricity by University of West of England, U.K. The Algae is gassified in a gassifier and is utilised in the I.C. engine-generator.

(c) Presently the Government have no programme to produce electricity from Algae.

Solar Energy System

4175. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH:
SHRI RAJENDRA
AGNIHOTRI:
SHRI PANKAJ
CHOWDHARY:
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to use that solar energy system in the country which has been developed in Australia;

(b) if so, the areas in which this system is proposed to be used;

(c) whether the Government have urged any Australian University to develop solar energy system for primary health centres in the country; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Australian University thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) M/s. Central Electronics Limited, Sahibabad, a Government of India Enterprise, have informed that a cooperative Research & Development Project with the University of New South Wales (UNSW), Australia for production of Ultra High Efficiency Solar Cell of 17 to 18%, using buried contact technology, as compared to 13 to 14% with the conventional screen printed technology now in use in our country.