

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1140

ANSWERED ON:25.02.2003

PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION IN DRINKING WATER PROJECTS

E. PONNUSWAMY

**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government have sought people's participation in rural water supply scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being contemplated for using the funds provided and lying unutilised with the officers?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL)

(a) & (b) The Sector Reforms Project introduced on pilot basis with effect from 1.4.99 in rural water supply sector contemplates to institutionalise community participation in rural water supply scheme. This has been scaled up as Swajaldhara and was formally launched on 25-12-2002 by Hon'ble Prime Minister. People participation in these initiatives include (i) adoption of demand-driven approach (ii) focus on village level capacity building, (iii) ensuring an integrated service delivery mechanism (iv) at least 10% capital cost sharing and full O & M shouldering by users, and (v) taking up of conservation measures for sustained water supply.

(c) The Sector Reform Projects are process projects and should be completed within 3 years of sanction. Zilla Parishads/District Water Supply Missions implement Sector Reforms Projects. The performance of the projects is monitored through Monthly Progress Report from District project authorities. Ministry has Area Officers designated for each State to monitor the progress of the scheme. State-wise reviews are also done by the Secretary, Dept. of Drinking Water Supply, Ministry of Rural Development, regularly. These steps have expedited implementation and utilisation of funds.