

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1190  
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2003  
PENDING WATER SUPPLY SCHEME OF MAHARASHTRA  
ALE NARENDRA;BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL

**Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Union Government is providing financial assistance for water supply schemes for the small towns having population of less than 20,000 under the Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme;
- (b) if so, whether about 20 schemes are lying pending with the Union Government in respect of Maharashtra State;
- (c) if so, whether the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Uttaranchal have requested to make certain amendments in the norms for sanctioning the aforesaid schemes;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Union Government thereto;
- (e) the time by which these schemes are likely to be cleared;
- (f) whether the Union Government propose to revise the norms laid down for providing coverage to various towns and to raise the criterion of population from 20,000 to 1,00,000;
- (g) if so, whether the Union Government also propose to raise the water supply limit from 70 litres to 100 litres per day per person;
- (h) if so, the details thereof; and
- (i) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): No, Sir.

(c) to (e): No, Sir. No such request from Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Uttaranchal for amendments in the norms for sanctioning of water supply schemes under AUWSP has been received.

(f): No, Sir.

(g): Does not arise.

(h): Does not arise.

(i): This issue was raised in the Conference of Chief Ministers of States in 1996. After careful consideration, Chief Minister of Maharashtra was informed by the then Minister of State for Urban Development that per capita norms of 70 lpcd is adequate for towns having population even up to one lakh as these towns do not have large industrial and institutional requirements of water. Moreover, unit cost of production of water will be comparatively high in case the service level is increased to 100 lpcd. Hence, with the limited Central assistance for AUWSP and narrow financial base of urban local bodies, it may not be possible to extend this basic facility to all the targeted towns.

As regards increase in population norm from 20,000 to 1,00,000, Planning Commission was of the view that it would be desirable to saturate the demands of urban population in small towns up to 20,000 population in the first instance before extending the scheme to cover other categories of urban agglomerations.