

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1154
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2004
SHORTAGE OF DRINKING WATER IN NAGOUR RAJASTHAN
Dangawas Shri Bhanwar Singh

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether two third part of Rajasthan is facing severe drinking water crisis and people in these areas are forced to drink salty water which also contains fluoride and other dangerous chemicals;
- (b) if so, whether Nagaur district of Rajasthan is the worst affected district in this regard;
- (c) if so, whether the Government proposed to supply drinking water from Indira Gandhi Canal so as to solve this problem; and
- (d) if so, the time by which this scheme is likely to be implemented?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

(SHRI A. NARENDRA)

(a) & (b): No, Sir. Out of the total number of approximately 94,000 rural habitations as on 1.04.99, only approximately 3000 rural habitations remain to be covered with the stipulated norms of potable drinking water supply. The State Government has completed a fresh habitation survey to ascertain the latest status of uncovered rural habitations, including the freshly emerged habitations and those slipped back from their earlier fully covered status. These results are yet to be validated by an independent agency. As per the latest water quality survey, State Government has reported 41,072 rural habitations having quality problems, out of which Nagaur district has 2022 quality affected habitations.

(c) & (d): Drinking Water Supply is a State subject. Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments in providing safe water by giving financial and technical assistance. With effect from 1.4.1998, full powers have been delegated to the State Governments for sanctioning and implementing projects for tackling water quality problems for which 15% of annual funds allotted to them under the Centrally sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) are specifically earmarked.