

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1993  
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2005  
IMPLEMENTATION OF DRINKING WATER SCHEMES  
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**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Union Government formulate various schemes and makes the State Governments responsible for their implementation particularly in the field of drinking water schemes;
- (b) if so, whether the Union Government conducts field review of these schemes or merely relies on the figures provided by the State Government;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Union Government has ever checked the actual position regarding implementation of the drinking water schemes;
- (e) if so, whether the Union Government is aware that despite multi-dimensional schemes in vogue nearly 80% population in the country is still deprived of drinking water; and
- (f) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA)

(a) to (c) Water is a State subject. State Governments plan, sanction and implement drinking water supply projects for providing drinking water facilities to all rural habitations. The Central Government supplements their efforts by providing financial support and technical assistance under a centrally sponsored scheme, namely Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). The field review of all the rural development programmes (including rural drinking water) is conducted regularly through evaluation studies, national level monitors, district level monitors and Area Officers' scheme. Besides, there are Vigilance and Monitoring Committees at State level and District Levels for ensuring quality expenditure and to monitor the execution of the schemes in the most effective manner. Under the Swajaldhara programme, review missions are sent for ensuring that the projects are being implemented in accordance with the Swajaldhara guidelines. The Department also reviews the actual position regarding implementation of various rural drinking water schemes by holding Conferences with the State Secretaries in charge of drinking water supply.

(d) to (f) Based on the Comprehensive Action Plan 1999 (CAP 99) and the subsequent coverage status reported by the States, 96.13% of rural habitations have been covered with the stipulated level of drinking water supply. However, as coverage status is always a dynamic one, the fully covered habitation may slip back to partially covered or not- covered category due to the various factors like, source going dry, increase in population, systems outliving their utility etc. All the States were requested to conduct a fresh habitation survey in the year 2003 to ascertain the status of drinking water supply. The results of the survey are under validation by the Indian Institute of Public Administration. A four-year plan (from 2005-06 to 2008-09) under Bharat Nirman envisages coverage of not only the uncovered habitations of balance CAP 99 habitations, but also the slipped back ones.