

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3626

ANSWERED ON:25.08.2006

SHORTAGE OF FUNDS FOR WATER SUPPLY .

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

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

- (a) Whether many States are facing shortage of funds for drinking water supply to all villages;
- (b) If so, the details thereof;
- (c) The funds demanded by each State and provided to it by the Government during the last three years and current year, year-wise;
- (d) Whether the poor rainfall in many States has badly affected the supply of drinking water during the current year; and
- (e) If so, the steps taken by the Government to provide adequate funds to these States to ensure drinking water supply to all villages?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT(SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL)

(a) to (c) Rural Drinking Water is a State subject. The Central Government, however, supplements the efforts of the States in providing drinking water facilities in the rural areas by rendering financial assistance through a Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely Accelerated Rural water Supply Programme (ARWSP). The inter-state allocation of funds is done on the basis of a laid down criteria, which takes into account different parameters viz. rural population, geographical conditions, number of uncovered habitations and water quality status. Therefore for allocation and release of funds, the question of considering the demand from the states does not arise. However, during the last quarter of the financial year, in case funds are available, additional funds over and above the allocation are released to the States. The amount of additional release is based on the amount of savings available, demand received from states, the need assessment and the performance of the State. The State-wise details of the releases (including additional releases) made under various components of ARWSP during the last three years and the allocation and releases (as on 23.8.2006) during the current year is annexed.

(d) & (e) Upto 5% of ARWSP funds are kept aside for rendering financial assistance to States for restoration of rural water supply affected due to Natural Calamity including drought due to poor rainfall. This year Rs. 5.50 crores has been released to Government of Uttaranchal on account of drought based on the findings of the Central team deputed for the purpose. No reports have been received from other states in this regard.