

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:923
ANSWERED ON:10.07.2009
REPORT ON RURAL DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the main recommendations made by the Technical Expert Group (TEG) constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri Gaurisankar Ghosh to examine various issues in the rural water supply and sanitation sector;
- (b) whether the Government has implemented these recommendations; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MS. AGATHA SANGMA)

(a): The main recommendations of the Technical Expert Group (TEG) are as given below: The group has submitted its recommendations for changes to be carried out at micro-level, district level, State level and at the central level. The funds disbursed by Government of India pertaining to water and sanitation sector should be dealt in a holistic manner in the Mission mode. The basis for funds allocation to the States is required to be revised after taking into consideration the problem existing at the grassroot level for implementation of the Schemes.

For giving effect to these changes, the structure and working of Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water and Sanitation Mission is required to be changed in a fundamental way. The group suggested three tier structure for Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water and Sanitation Mission, the first should be a Council to be headed by Minister of Rural Development, the second to be the Governing Body of the Council accountable to the Minister of Rural Development and the third tier should be the Secretariat of the Mission for carrying out the mandate of the Mission.

The Group had also recommended that the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water and Sanitation Mission should be the nodal point for coordination of all initiatives with major agencies both bilateral and multi-lateral working in rural drinking water and sanitation sectors.

(b)&(c): The draft Note for the Cabinet incorporating various recommendations of the Technical Expert Group has been circulated to various Ministries/Departments for their comments.