

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3513

ANSWERED ON:16.08.2010

MEETINGS OF STATE WATER SECRETARIES

Danve Shri Raosaheb Patil;Swamygowda Shri N Cheluvarya Swamy

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has recently convened a meeting of State Secretaries for Rural Development to review the implementation of revised guidelines for National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP);
- (b) if so, the details of discussion held in the meeting and the outcome thereof;
- (c) whether the drinking water situation in the country particularly in rural areas is at an alarming point; and
- (d) if so, the efforts made by the Government to effectively implement the revised guidelines for NRDWP also to ensure availability of safe drinking water in rural areas?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Yes Sir. On 22nd July, 2010, a meeting of State Secretaries in-charge of rural water supply and sanitation was held wherein the progress of implementation of NRDWP was also reviewed. During the meeting, progress achieved and status of rural water supply, water quality testing and sanitation were highlighted. It was impressed upon the States to expedite the implementation to achieve the set targets.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Nevertheless, at the fag end of the last financial year, States were asked to prepare NRDWP Annual Action Plan for the year 2010-11, which were discussed with the respective States in March/ April, 2010. States finalized their Annual Action Plans keeping in view the discussions held. Under these plans, States identified uncovered, quality-affected habitations and other habitations wherein people are not getting adequate and safe water supply including SC and ST dominated habitations for coverage during 2010-11. Based on the same, targets for coverage have been decided and NRDWP funds to States have been released. The progress of implementation is monitored through online Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) and from time to time through video-conference and in review meetings.