

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4804
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2010
DIRECTIONS ON POTABLE WATER
Singh Rajkumari Ratna;Yadav Shri M. Anjan Kumar

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has issued directions to the State Governments for improvement of quality of potable water;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the State Governments thereon, State-wise; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government for non-compliance of these directions?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES(SHRI VINCENT H. PALA)

(a) to (c) The Department of Drinking Water Supply, Ministry of Rural Development has informed that due emphasis has been laid on maintenance of potability and reliability of drinking water quality in the guidelines for the centrally sponsored "National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP)". Government of India provides technical and financial assistance in providing safe drinking water in the rural areas of the country. Under NRDWP, 5% of total funds allocated to the States could be utilized for support activities which inter alia include establishment of district and sub-district water quality testing laboratories for testing quality of drinking water supplied in the rural areas of the country. Further, under the National Rural Drinking Water Quality Monitoring & Surveillance Programme (NRDWQM&SP), funds have been provided to all States to distribute field test kits to all Gram Panchayats, undertake awareness generation on consuming safe drinking water and also to train five grass root workers in each panchayat. State Governments have taken appropriate measures for setting up the water testing laboratories, providing field test kits and training the personnel. The progress in respect of implementation of the programmes are reviewed on-line by the Department of Drinking Water Supply, Ministry of Rural Development.