

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4143  
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2010  
WATER SUPPLY PROJECTS IN HILLY AREAS  
Singh Baba Shri K.C.

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

- (a) whether there is a lack of coordination between the Central and the State agencies on implementation of water supply projects;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) the State-wise number of districts covered under the programme, so far;
- (d) whether a provision to extend special concession in the population living in the hilly areas of Uttarakhand on the basis of their proportional representation is being contemplated by the Government;
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount of money allotted under the programme as per the cost sharing basis during each of the last three years;
- (f) whether the Government proposes to provide more funds to the hilly States, particularly Uttarakhand under different schemes;
- (g) if so, the details thereof;
- (h) whether a sectoral reform programme has been started in all the States/ Union Territories to ensure active participation of the communities in the Rural Water Supply Programme; and
- (i) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Government of India is implementing the centrally sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP). Under the programme, the Government of India provides financial and technical support to the States. The selection, planning and implementation of the scheme is done by the States. The Government of India is not aware of any lack of coordination between Central and State Governments in the implementation of the programme.

(c): The coverage of rural water supply is monitored in terms of rural habitations and not districts. The State-wise coverage status of habitations as on 30.11.2010 is attached in the Annexure.

(d)&(e): Funds under NRDWP are allocated to the States on the criteria of Rural Population (40% weightage), Rural SC and ST population (10% weightage), States under Desert Development Programme (DDP), Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), Hill Area Development Programme (HADP) and special category Hill States in terms of rural areas (40% weightage) and Rural population managing rural drinking water supply schemes (10% weightage). Weightage in allocation is therefore given to hilly areas and to population living in hilly areas under the NRDWP. Funds allocated under NRDWP to Uttarakhand in the last three years is as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Year Allocation

2007-08 89.30

2008-09 107.58

2009-10 126.16

(f)&(g): Based on availability of savings with the Department due to less expenditure by some States, towards the end of the financial year, on the basis of the trend of utilisation by States which are demanding additional funds are allocated and released.

(h) & (i): Reforms in the rural drinking water supply sector were adopted in 1999 in the country and pilot projects in selected districts were taken up. The basic concepts of the reforms included community participation in the planning, implementation, operation and maintenance of the schemes of the community's choice. This was a paradigm shift from supply driven to a demand responsive approach, centralized to decentralized service delivery, from top-down to bottom-up approach and ultimately to change the role of the Public Health Engineering Department from that of a service provider to a facilitator. In 2002 by scaling up the Sector Reforms initiatives, Swajaldhara was launched throughout the country. However in 2009-10, the NRDWP guidelines were issued mainstreaming the principle of community participation in the rural drinking water sector schemes. The Swajaldhara is subsumed in the Sustainability component of NRDWP. Now State Governments can take up Swajaldhara schemes under Sustainability component and have the flexibility to decide on the extent of community contribution towards the cost of the schemes.