

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4285
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2010
MONITORING OF DRINKING WATER QUALITY
Badal Harsimrat Kaur

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has trained persons under the National Rural Drinking Water Quality Monitoring and Surveillance programme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the norms and guidelines under the programme; and
- (d) the number of villages covered under the scheme/programme?

Answer

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

(a)to(d): National Rural Drinking Water Quality Monitoring and Surveillance programme was launched in the year 2006 to empower Gram Panchayats (GPs) to test their own drinking water sources using simple field test kits. The programme covers the entire rural area of the country and includes provision of one chemical field test kit and adequate number of bacteriological vials to each GP in the country. Apart from this, the programme include awareness generation, sanitary survey of drinking water sources and capacity building of 5 grass root workers in each GP for testing their own drinking water sources. Drinking water samples found to be contaminated can be referred to the district water quality testing laboratories for confirmation. As on 1/12/2010, as reported by the State Governments, a total of 9.76 lakh persons have been trained in the country under the programme, of which 8.79 lakh persons are from Gram Panchayat level.