

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5475
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2010
INSTALLATION OF INDIA MARK-2 HANDPUMP
Kishor Shri Kamal

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the problem of pollution of ground water used as drinking water in the country;
- (b) if so, the details alongwith the measures being adopted by the Government to provide safe drinking water in the country; and
- (c) whether the Government has received requests regarding funds allocation for installing India Mark-2 handpump in the various areas of the country particularly in Uttar Pradesh?

Answer

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

(a): As per information updated by the various States on the online Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of this Department, as on 1.4.2010, there are 1,44,064 habitations in the country which are affected with chemical contaminants, viz., Fluoride, Arsenic, Iron, Salinity and Nitrate.

(b): Rural water supply is a State subject. This Department supplements the efforts of the States by providing them with technical and financial assistance under the centrally sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) under which up to 65% of the funds can be utilized by the States for coverage and tackling water quality problems in rural areas.

(c): States already have delegated powers to plan, design, sanction and implement water supply schemes. The requests received from various States for installation of India Mark-2 handpumps are referred back to the States for taking necessary action as the Government of India does not approve any water supply schemes.