

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3134

ANSWERED ON:29.11.2010

DRINKING WATER FOR RURAL HABITATIONS

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

(a) whether as per Habitation Survey 2003, 6.37 rural habitations have not been covered for providing drinking water; and

(b) if so, the measures taken to provide drinking water in these villages within a stipulated time frame?

**Answer**

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

(a): As per Habitation Survey-2003 carried out by the States/UTs, 6.37 lakh habitations were found to have drinking water problems.

(b): Rural water supply is a State subject and State Governments/ its agencies are primarily responsible for drinking water supply in rural areas. After the 73rd Amendment in the Constitution of India, rural water supply has been placed in the 11th Schedule of the Constitution and is to be transferred to Panchayati Raj Institutions

(PRIs). However, Government of India supplements the efforts of the States by providing financial and technical assistance under National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) [erstwhile Accelerated Rural Drinking Water Programme (ARWSP)], Rural drinking water has been included as one of the components under Bharat Nirman to ensure availability of potable drinking water in all rural habitations within a timeframe.

At the end of Bharat Nirman Phase-I on 31.3.2009, 54,440 uncovered habitations, 3,58,362 slipped back habitations and 50,168 quality affected habitations were covered.

At the end of Bharat Nirman Phase-I, States reported that there were 627 un-covered and 1,79,999 quality-affected habitations yet to be covered. So far 253 uncovered and 34,305 quality affected habitations have been covered in Bharat Nirman Phase-II. The remaining habitations are proposed to be covered during Bharat Nirman Phase-II.

To ensure that remaining targeted habitations are covered during the Bharat Nirman Phase-II, State Governments have been requested to prepare Annual Action Plans, to cover the remaining un-covered and quality-affected habitations on priority and also mark the targeted habitations in the online Integrated Management Information System (IMIS). To achieve the targets laid down since the launch of Bharat Nirman, the allocation of funds for rural drinking water have been increased substantially from Rs. 2,585 crore in the year 2004-05 i.e. year preceding the launch of Bharat Nirman to Rs. 9,000 crore in 2010-11.