

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:556
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2011
DRINKING WATER PROBLEM IN KERALA
Karunakaran Shri P.

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government is aware that the people of Kerala are facing serious problem for drinking water in rural areas;
- (b) if so, whether Kerala Government has submitted any projects for drinking water facilities in rural areas before the Union Government;
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Government thereon; and
- (d) the total amount of fund allocated/ proposed to be allocated to other financial institutions by the Union Government for providing drinking water for rural areas in Kerala State?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): To provide access to potable drinking water in rural areas, Government of India through the States, has been implementing the Centrally Sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) (erstwhile Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP)). All schemes and projects under NRDWP are approved by the respective State Level Scheme Sanctioning Committees. Projects under NRDWP are not required to be submitted to the Government of India for sanction/ approval at the Central Level. The Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Rural Development does not have a separate fund that can be allocated to special projects/schemes. Only projects seeking external assistance are submitted to the Government of India.

Under NRDWP Government of Kerala has been allocated Rs.144.28 crore during 2010-11. Against this Rs.136.76 crore has already been released.

As regards external assistance, Kerala has posed the second Kerala Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project (Jalnidhi-II) with an outlay of Rs.900 crore to the World Bank for assistance.