

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5965

ANSWERED ON:08.09.2011

ACCESS TO SAFE DRINKING WATER

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Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

e:

(a) whether access to safe drinking water in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Orissa is far below the national average;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of habitations targeted to be covered for the safe drinking water during 2011-12, State and UT-wise;

(d) the funds earmarked and allocated for the purpose, State and UT-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to provide safe drinking water to all the household?

Answer

MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a)&(b): As reported by the states in the online Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of the Ministry, the percentage of access to safe drinking water in terms of habitation coverage in the states of Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand is higher than the national average, while for the states of Bihar, Chhattisgarh and Orissa, it is lower than the national average.

The reason for below average coverage in some states, include slip back of habitations to partially covered status due to drying up of drinking water sources, lowering of ground water table, drinking water sources becoming contaminated due to natural and man-made causes, water supply systems outliving their life, systems working below rated capacities, poor operation and maintenance of systems, increase in population, emergence of new habitations, delay in procurement processes, taking up multi-village schemes, etc.

(c): During 2011-12, under the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), 1,45,169 habitations which include 1,15,379 partially covered and 29,790 quality- affected habitations, are targeted for coverage with safe drinking water. The State/ UT- wise details of targeted habitations at Annexure - I.

(d): Under the NRDWP, funds are allocated and released to the States. A statement showing the details of State/UT-wise allocation made so far during 2011-12 is at Annexure - II.

(e): To ensure availability of potable drinking water in all rural habitations within a timeframe, rural drinking water has been included as one of the components under Bharat Nirman. At the commencement of Bharat Nirman as on 1.4.2005, 55067 uncovered habitations, 3,31,604 slipped back habitations and 2,16,968 quality affected habitations existed in the country. At the end of Bharat Nirman phase-I i.e. on 31.3.2009, there were 627 uncovered and 1,79,999 quality affected habitations yet to be covered with provision of safe drinking water. These habitations were proposed to be covered during Bharat Nirman Phase-II. To ensure that these remaining habitations are covered during the Bharat Nirman Phase-II, State Governments had been requested to prepare Annual Action Plans to cover the uncovered and quality affected habitations on priority and also mark the targeted habitations in the online Integrated Management Information System (IMIS). As of 1.4.2011, all the remaining uncovered habitations have been covered, while 1,21,046 habitations with some sources affected by chemical contamination and 3,75,483 partially covered habitations remain. To achieve the targets laid down since the launch of Bharat Nirman, the allocation of funds for rural drinking water has been increased substantially from Rs.2,585crore in the year 2004-05 i.e. year preceding the launch of Bharat Nirman to Rs.9,350 crore in 2011-12..