

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:46
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2011
AVAILABILITY OF DRINKING WATER
Deka Shri Ramen;Ramkishun Shri

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

- (a) the number of villages/habitations which are still inaccessible to drinking water, State-wise;
- (b) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to provide adequate and safe drinking water in such areas including the rural areas of the country;
- (c) whether Union Government has received safe drinking water proposals from various State Governments;
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the action taken/proposed to be taken thereon; and
- (e) the time by which safe drinking water is likely to be made available in all the villages/habitations of the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a)to(e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House. Statement referred to in reply to parts (a)to(e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 46 admitted for reply on 24.11.2011

(a): Out of the 16,64,186 rural habitations in the country, as on 21.11.2011, States have reported that 3,44,787 habitations are partially covered with provision of safe and adequate water and 1,14,444 habitations have some sources affected with water quality problems. State-wise details are at Annexure.

(b): Water is a state subject and State Governments are responsible to provide drinking water to the rural population. Government of India is administering the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) for providing financial and technical assistance to the States to supplement their efforts in providing safe and adequate drinking water to the rural population. Under the NRDWP, funds are provided to inter-alia, cover partially covered habitations, quality affected habitations, rural schools and anganwadis with drinking water supply.

(c)&(d): Under NRDWP, State governments are competent to plan, sanction and implement rural water supply schemes. Drinking water supply projects are approved by the State Level Scheme Sanctioning Committee. As such, no proposals are required to be sent to the Central Government for approval.

(e): According to the NSSO 65th Round Survey conducted in 2008-09, 90.3% of rural households have access to protected drinking water supply. All uncovered habitations in the country have been covered with supply of safe drinking water under Bharat Nirman. The Government of India is taking steps to cover the remaining partially covered and quality affected habitations with safe and adequate drinking water supply on a continuous basis.