

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4375

ANSWERED ON:03.05.2012

DRINKING WATER FACILITIES

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

- (a) whether there is a huge gap in demand and supply position of drinking water in India at present;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has set any time-frame to provide safe drinking water facility to households/habitations in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred in this regard;
- (f) whether the Government proposes to rope in private players under Public-Private Partnership (PPP) for such activity;
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a)&(b): As per the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) guidelines, a quantity of 40 liters per capita per day (lpcd) of water for humans to meet requirements based on minimum basic need, has been identified. Out of this 3 lpcd is for drinking purpose. Water being a State subject, the State Governments may fix their own higher norms based on water availability, demand, capital cost, affordability etc. Water for drinking purposes is sourced both from ground (about 85 %) and surface sources (about 15%). As per the National Water policy, drinking water is given priority over other competing demands, like agriculture and Industry.

(c)to(e): To ensure availability of safe drinking water facility in all rural habitations within a timeframe, rural drinking water has been included as one of the components of 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. Of these targeted habitations, 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. As on 1.4.2012, there are no uncovered habitations remaining in the country. However as reported by the States on the online Integrated Management Information System of the Ministry, out of the 16,64,186 rural habitations in the country, as on 29.2.2012, 99,640 are quality affected and 2,92,562 partially covered habitations. To ensure that these remaining habitations are covered, State Governments have been requested to prepare their Annual Action Plans targeting to cover these habitations on priority basis. To achieve the target of providing safe drinking water to all habitations in the country, allocation of funds for rural drinking water has been increased substantially from Rs. 2,585 cr. in the year 2004-05 i.e. year preceding the launch of Bharat Nirman to Rs. 10,500 cr. in 2012-13. The Ministry has requested for an allocation of Rs. 1,22,570 cr. for rural water supply during the XII Five Year plan.

(f)&(g): Water is a State subject. The Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation administers the centrally sponsored scheme, the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), for providing technical and financial assistance to the States, to supplement their efforts to provide drinking water in rural areas. The State Governments are vested with powers to plan, execute and implement rural drinking water supply projects under NRDWP. As such it is for the State governments to decide on implementing rural drinking water supply projects under public private partnership (PPP) model.