

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1844  
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2012  
CONFERENCE ON DRINKING WATER  
Ju Dev Shri Dilip Singh

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

- (a) whether a Conference of State Secretaries-in-charge of Rural Drinking Water of all States was held in the recent past wherein the progress achieved under National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) was reviewed;
- (b) is so, the details thereof and the decisions arrived at in the said conference; and
- (c) the details of the action proposed to be taken by the Government thereon especially for tribal areas of Chhattisgarh?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) & (b): Yes Sir. A conference of State Secretaries in-charge of Rural Drinking Water Supply of all States was held on 24-25 May, 2012 wherein progress achieved under the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) was reviewed. The following observations/ suggestions were made in the conference.

- i. States need to accelerate utilization of funds under NRDWP.
- ii. Coverage of quality affected habitations and partially covered habitations needs to be prioritized.
- iii. Use of Support funds released under NRDWP to States has to be planned properly to improve the quality of the programme.
- iv. States need to concentrate on provision of piped water supply in rural areas
- v. States need to plan for increasing service levels of drinking water supply in rural areas to 55 litres per capita per day.
- vi. States need to plan for a conjoint approach for coverage of Gram Panchayats with water supply and sanitation.
- vii. All audit requirements under NRDWP need to be completed.
- viii. Data entry of the online Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of the Ministry needs to be up to date.

(c): The State governments were asked to plan for the coverage of rural habitations with adequate potable water supply, focusing on the points detailed in reply to part (a) and (b). For coverage of tribal concentrated habitations, including in Chhattisgarh, States were urged to utilise the funds provided under the Tribal sub-plan. States were also asked to plan for setting up solar powered pump based schemes through which piped water supply could be provided to remote habitations.