GOVERNMENT OF INDIA DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3438 ANSWERED ON:13.12.2012 IRREGULARITIES UNDER DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION PROJECTS Ajay Kumar SHRI

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

(a) the details of the irregularities reported from various States including Jharkhand in the implementation of Drinking Water and Sanitation Schemes during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) the action taken by the Government in the matter, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has put in place any mechanism to monitor these Schemes

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the outcome of the said mechanism; and

(e) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to address the issue?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER & SANITATION (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI)

(a): There are no reports in this Ministry of irregularities in implementation of drinking water and sanitation schemes from any State during the last 3 years and current year.

(b): Does not arise.

(c)to(e): The Vigilance and Monitoring (V & M) Committees at State and District Levels in all States / UTs monitor the implementation of Programmes and introduce greater transparency in the process. These Committees, inter-alia, include Members of Parliament (MPs), Members of Legislative Assembly (MLAs), representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs). The Members of Parliament of both LokSabha and Rajya Sabha have been assigned a Central role in the reconstituted V & M Committees and they have been nominated Chairman / Co- Chairman of the district level V & M Committees.

Moreover, the Ministry monitors the proper utilization of funds by reviewing the programme periodically by conducting meetings of the State Secretaries in charge of rural water supply and sanitation, regional review meetings and video conferencing. Senior officers / Area Officers / Technical officers of the Ministry visit the States to see the progress of implementation of the programmes. Further, States are required to prepare Annual Action Plans to implement schemes, works and activities under the Programmes. The expenditure under the programmes is also audited.

Besides the Ministry also has an Integrated Management Information System in which information related to all schemes / projects are available and can be accessed by anyone. The Ministry also utilizes the services of National Level Monitors (NLMs) empanelled by the Ministry of Rural Development for monitoring of implementation.