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**STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
(2007-2008)**

**FOURTEENTH LOK SABHA**

**MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
(DEPARTMENT OF DRINKING WATER SUPPLY)**

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS  
(2008-2009)**

**THIRTY-SEVENTH REPORT**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

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(DEPARTMENT OF DRINKING WATER SUPPLY)

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS  
(2008-2009)

*Presented to Lok Sabha on 17.4.2008*

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LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI

*April, 2008/Chaitra, 1930 (Saka)*

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## CONTENTS

	PAGE
COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE .....	(v)
INTRODUCTION .....	(vii)
REPORT	
CHAPTER I      Introductory .....	1
CHAPTER II      Status of implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee in the Twenty-eighth Report under direction 73A of the Direction by the Speaker, Lok Sabha .....	3
CHAPTER III      Overall analysis of the Demands for Grants (2008-09) with regard Outlay & Expenditure ...	4
A.      Water for life decade 2005-2015 .....	4
B.      Evolution of Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme and Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission (RGNDWM) .....	4
C.      Major initiatives/interventions undertaken by the Department in the field of drinking water for rural areas .....	5
D.      Provision of outlay <i>vis-a-vis</i> the fund requirement .....	7
E.      An analysis of the outlay position .....	11
CHAPTER IV      Physical progress under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) .....	15
CHAPTER V      Sustainability and Quality .....	19
Quality	
A.      Underperformance with regard to addressing quality affected habitations .....	19
B.      National Rural Water Quality Management and Surveillance Programme (NRDWQM &SP) .....	21
	(i)

	PAGE
Sustainability	
A. Measures taken by the Department to promote sustainability .....	23
B. Targets and Achievement with regard to slipped back habitations .....	24
C. Depletion of ground water and Rainwater Harvesting .....	25
D. Pursuance with States to promote sustainability measures.....	26
E. Sustainability of the Systems .....	27
CHAPTER VI Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) .....	31
A. Evolution of Schemes for rural sanitation...	31
B. Physical Performance under TSC.....	31
C. Financial Performance .....	32
CHAPTER VII Drinking Water and Sanitation Scenario in Rural Schools .....	36
A. Status of drinking water facilities in rural Schools .....	36
B. Sanitation scenario in rural schools .....	37
APPENDICES	
I. Critical analysis of Statement made by Minister under Direction 73A regarding Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the Twenty-eighth Report of the Standing Committee on Rural Development (2007-2008) .....	41
II. Financial Progress under Rural Water Supply Programme during 2006-2007 (States/UTs) .....	43
III. Financial Progress under Rural Water Supply Programme during 2007-2008 (States/UTs) .....	46
IV. Programme & State-wise unspent balance as on 31.12.2007 {Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission (RGNDWM)} .....	49

	PAGE
V. State-wise status of habitations as on 1.4.2007 .....	51
VI. State-wise water quality-affected habitations as on 1.4.2006 .....	53
VII. Target and Coverage of Habitations and Rural Schools under Rural Water Supply Programme (2007-2008) .....	56
VIII. Minutes of the Eleventh Sitting of the Committee held on Wednesday, the 27 March, 2008 .....	59
IX. Minutes of the Fourteenth Sitting of the Committee held on Thursday, the 10 April, 2008 .....	62
X. Statements of Observations/Recommendations .....	64

COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT (2007-2008)

Shri Kalyan Singh — *Chairman*

MEMBERS

*Lok Sabha*

2. Shri Mani Charenamei
3. Shri V. Kishore Chandra S. Deo
4. Shri Sandeep Dikshit
5. Shri George Fernandes
6. Shrimati Kiran Maheshwari\*
7. Shri Zora Singh Mann
8. Shri Hannan Mollah
9. Shri D. Narbula
10. Shri A. F. G. Osmani
11. Adv. Renge Patil Tukaram Ganpatrao
12. Shrimati Tejaswini Gowda
13. Shri Neeraj Shekhar
14. Shrimati Jyotimoyee Sikder
15. Shri Sita Ram Singh
16. Shri D.C. Srikantappa
17. Shri Bagun Sumbrui
18. Shri Tarit Baran Topdar<sup>#</sup>
19. Shri Chandramani Tripathi
20. Shri Beni Prasad Verma
21. Shri Dharmendra Yadav

*Rajya Sabha*

22. Shri Balihari Babu
23. Shri Jayantilal Barot\*\*
24. Kumari Nirmala Deshpande
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26. Dr. Chandan Mitra
27. Dr. Ram Prakash\*\*
28. Shri P.R. Rajan
29. Shri Bhagwati Singh
30. Ms. Sushila Tiriya
31. Shrimati Kanimozhi<sup>@</sup>

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri S.K. Sharma — *Additional Secretary*
2. Shri P.K. Grover — *Joint Secretary*
3. Shrimati Sudesh Luthra — *Director*
4. Shri Hoti Lal — *Deputy Secretary-II*

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\*Hon'ble Speaker has changed the nomination of Shrimati Kiran Maheshwari, MP (LS) from Standing Committee on Water Resources to Standing Committee on Rural Development *w.e.f.* 30 August, 2007, *vide* Lok Sabha Bulletin Part II, Para No. 4022 dated August 30, 2007.

<sup>@</sup>Hon'ble Chairman, Rajya Sabha nominated Shrimati Kanimozhi, MP, (RS) to Standing Committee on Rural Development *w.e.f.* 15 September, 2007 *vide* Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II, Para No. 4096 dated 19 September, 2007.

<sup>#</sup>Hon'ble Speaker has changed the nomination of. Shri Tarit Baran Topdar, MP (LS) from Standing Committee on Energy to Standing Committee on Rural Development *w.e.f.* 12 December, 2007 as intimated *vide* Lok Sabha Bulletin Part II, Para No. 4366 dated 12 December, 2007.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Ceased to be member of the Standing Committee on Rural Development consequent upon the retirement from the membership of Rajya Sabha *w.e.f.* 9 April, 2008.

<sup>§</sup>Hon'ble Speaker has nominated Shri Neeraj Shekhar, MP, Lok Sabha to the Standing Committee on Rural Development *w.e.f.* 10 March, 2008. Consequent upon vacancy caused by resignation given by Shri T. Madhusudan Reddy, M.P. (LS) from the membership of Lok Sabha *w.e.f.* 4 March, 2008.



## INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Rural Development (2007-08) having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present the Thirty-seventh Report on Demands for Grants (2008-09) of the Department of Drinking Water Supply (Ministry of Rural Development).

2. Demands for Grants have been examined by the Committee under Rule 331E (1) (a) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

3. The Committee took evidence of the representatives of the Department of Drinking Water Supply (Ministry of Rural Development) on 27 March, 2008.

4. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their sitting held on 10 April, 2008.

5. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the officials of the Department of Drinking Water Supply (Ministry of Rural Development) for placing before them the requisite material and their considered views in connection with the examination of the subject.

6. The Committee would also like to place on record their deep sense of appreciation for the invaluable assistance rendered to them by the officials of Lok Sabha Secretariat attached to the Committee.

NEW DELHI;  
16 April, 2008  

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27 Chaitra, 1930 (Saka)

KALYAN SINGH,  
*Chairman,*  
*Standing Committee on*  
*Rural Development.*

# REPORT

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTORY

The Ministry of Rural Development consists of three Departments: (i) Department of Rural Development, (ii) Department of Land Resources, and (iii) Department of Drinking Water Supply.

1.2 Rural Water Supply is a State subject and as such State Governments are primarily responsible for providing drinking water to the rural habitations. The Department of Drinking Water Supply was created in 1999 as the nodal Department, which supplements the efforts made by the States by providing financial and technical assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). At present, the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission (RGNDWM) is functioning in the Department of Drinking Water Supply with the following main objectives:—

- (i) to ensure coverage of rural habitations with safe Drinking Water Supply;
- (ii) to ensure sustainability of the system & the sources;
- (iii) to preserve quality of water by institutionalizing water quality monitoring & surveillance as well as support the States for tackling the quality problems; and
- (iv) to promote community household sanitation.

1.3 The Department of Drinking Water Supply (Ministry of Rural Development) administers two Centrally Sponsored Schemes *viz.* Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) for providing safe drinking water and Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) for providing improved sanitation facilities in the rural areas of the country to achieve the objectives of RGNDWM.

1.4 Rural Water Supply is one of the six components of the Bharat Nirman Programme to be implemented during the period 2005-09 to build the rural infrastructure. During the Bharat Nirman period, 55,067 uncovered and about 3.31 lakh slipped back habitations are to be covered and 2.17 lakh quality affected habitations are to be addressed.

1.5 The detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry were laid in Lok Sabha on 14 March, 2008.

1.6 The Demands for Grants of the Department were laid in Lok Sabha under Demand No. 82.

1.7 The overall Demands for Grants of the Department for the year 2008-09 are Rs.8501.90 crore.

1.8 In the present Report, the Committee have examined the implementation of respective Centrally Sponsored Schemes/Programmes as indicated in the aforesaid para in the context of overall budgetary allocation made in the Demands for Grants for the year 2008-09.

## CHAPTER II

### STATUS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMEN- DATIONS MADE BY THE COMMITTEE IN THE TWENTY EIGHTH REPORT UNDER DIRECTION 73A OF THE DIRECTIONS BY THE SPEAKER, LOK SABHA.

2.1. As per direction 73A of the 'Directions by the Speaker, Lok Sabha', the Minister concerned shall make once in six months a statement in the House regarding the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the Reports of Departmentally Related Standing Committee of Lok Sabha with regard to his Ministry.

2.2. The Twenty Eighth Report of the Standing Committee on Rural Development on Demands for Grants (2007-08) of the Department of Drinking Water Supply was presented to Lok Sabha on 14 May 2007. The statement with regard to this Report had fallen due on 14 November, 2007. However, the statement on the said Report was made by Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development in Lok Sabha on 6 December 2007. The critical analysis of the statement is given at *Appendix-I*.

## CHAPTER III

### OVERALL ANALYSIS OF THE DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2008-09) WITH REGARD TO OUTLAY & EXPENDITURE

#### **A. Water for life decade 2005-2015**

One of the important objectives of the Millennium Declaration linked to safe drinking water and basic sanitation specifically seeks to halve, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation. by 2015, To this end, the United Nation launched the International Decade for Action—Water for life during the years 2005-15 on 22 March, 2005. The decade offers an opportunity to the member Nations to mobilise resources and strengthen political commitment for providing safe water and adequate sanitation facilities. This year, the World Water Day coincides with the International Year of Sanitation. To achieve the targets under Millennium Development Goal, the Government needs to focus efforts for raising awareness and taking concrete action by evolving new interventions and policies to provide this fundamental right of access to safe water and basic sanitation to the millions of people across the country.

#### **B. Evolution of Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) under Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission (RGNDWM)**

3.2 Rural drinking water supply is one of the important subjects entrusted to the States in the Indian Constitution. The Government of India has, however, been supplementing the efforts of the States by providing financial assistance to them over the years as described in the subsequent paras.

3.3 In the year 1954 a national water supply & sanitation programme was introduced in the social sector. The Government of India provided assistance to the States to establish special investigation divisions in the Fourth Five Year Plan to carry out identification of the problem villages. Taking into account the magnitude of the problem and to accelerate the pace of coverage of problem villages, the Government of India introduced the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) in 1972-73 to assist the States/UTs with 100 per cent grant-in-aid to implement the water supply schemes in

such villages. This programme continued till 1973–74. But with the introduction of the Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) during the Fifth Five Year Plan (from 1974–75), ARWSP was withdrawn. The programme was, however, reintroduced in 1977–78 when the progress of supply of safe drinking water in identified problem villages under the MNP was not adequately focused.

The entire programme was given a Mission approach when the Technology Mission on Drinking Water Management, called the National Drinking Water Mission (NDWM) was introduced as one of the five Societal Missions in 1986. In the year 1991, NDWM was renamed as Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission (RGNDWM). Presently, Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission is functioning in the Department of Drinking Water Supply of the Ministry of Rural Development. The Mission supplements the efforts made by the States by providing financial assistance under ARWSP.

3.4 The Secretary, during the course of oral evidence while emphasizing on the need to restructure the aforesaid Mission stated as under:

“The Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission was set up in 1989. It is more than 20 years since this Mission has been working. We do believe that this Mission needs a different approach and re-structuring of the Mission is necessary. We appointed Shri Gouri Shankar Ghosh—who was the original Mission Director in 1989 and who later retired as the head of the work expert on Water and Sanitation division of the United Nations—as Chairman with technical experts from Universities and from the Health sectors. They have given their report on how this Mission could be restructured to meet the challenges of the future. The report of the expert team has been received. The Government are examining it”.

3.5 The funding pattern of all these programmes is different—in ARWSP (Normal), it is 50:50 between Centre & States, in Sector Reform Pilot projects and Swajaldhara, it is 90:10 between Centre and beneficiaries/community and, for Sub-Missions on Water Quality and Sustainability, it is 75:25 between Centre and States. Under ARWSP (DDP Areas), 100 per cent grant-in-aid is provided to concerned States.

**C. Major initiatives/ interventions undertaken by the Department in the field of drinking water for rural areas**

3.6 (i) ARWSP for supplementing the efforts made by the States by providing financial and technical assistance in providing access to safe drinking water to all rural habitations in the country.

**(ii) Bharat Nirman** *inter alia*, which includes drinking water supply as a component was launched in 2005-06 to be implemented in four years from 2005-06 to 2008-09 for building rural infrastructure. During the Bharat Nirman period, under drinking water component, 55,067 uncovered habitations, about 3.31 lakh slipped-back habitations are to be covered and 2.17 lakh quality-affected habitations are to be addressed. Tackling Arsenic and Fluoride contamination have been given priority.

**(iii) Sector Reforms/Swajaladhara** Under this programme upto 20 per cent of the total allocation under ARWSP was set aside to promote decentralised demand driven community managed rural water supply programme to bring in sustainability in the sector. However, as per revised principles in 2007-08, implementation of new rural water supply schemes under ARWSP on Swajaldhara principles is to be decided by the States and quantum of funds to be allocated for this purpose out of ARWSP funds as well as quantum of community contribution is left to the discretion of the States.

**(iv) Sub-missions for Water Quality** Exclusive sub-missions had been constituted by the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission (RGNDWM) for initiating both preventive and remedial measures for tackling water quality problems *w.e.f.* 1 April, 1998. Powers were delegated to the State Governments to plan, sanction and implement sub-mission projects. However, a policy change was introduced in February, 2006 wherein upto 20 per cent of ARWSP funds are retained at the Centre to provide focused funding to the quality affected States.

**(v) National Rural Drinking Water Quality Monitoring and Surveillance Programme (NRDWQM&SP)** A community-based National Rural Drinking Water Quality Monitoring and Surveillance Programme (NRDWQM&SP) has been launched in 2006 which aims at testing of all drinking water sources by the grass root level workers in each Village Panchayat by simple-to-use field test kits and joint sanitary surveys. Under the programme, one field test kit would be provided to each Gram Panchayat in the country for this purpose. The positively tested samples would then be tested at the District/ State level laboratories for confirmation. The basic features of this programme is institutionalization of community participation and involvement of PRIs for monitoring and surveillance of all drinking water sources in the country, decentralization of water quality monitoring and surveillance, generation of awareness among the rural masses about the water quality issues and the problems related to water borne diseases, and building capacity of Panchayats to own the field test kit

and take up full O&M responsibility for water quality monitoring of all drinking water sources in their respective PRI area. For this programme, the Government of India provides 100 per cent financial assistance.

#### **D. Provision of outlay *vis-a-vis* the fund requirement**

3.7 As per the information furnished by the Department, the allocation proposed by the Department to the Planning Commission for the drinking water sector in rural areas, the actual allocation provided and the R.E. during each year of the Tenth Plan and the year 2007-08 and 2008-09 is as follows:—

(Amount Rs. in crore)

Year	Proposed to Planning Commission	Allocated by the Planning Commission	Revised Estimates
2002-03	4,100.00	2,110.00	2,110.00
2003-04	3,000.00	2,585.00	2,565.00
2004-05	3,148.00	2,900.00	2,900.00
2005-06	4,950.00	4,050.00	4,060.00
2006-07	5,550.00	5,200.00	4,560.00
2007-08	9,632.36	6,500.00	6,400.00*
2008-09	9870.65	7,300.00	—

\* Upto 29.2.2008

3.8 Further, with regard to the amount proposed to the Planning Commission during the Eleventh Plan, the information provided by the Department is as follows:—

(Amount Rs. in crore)

Year/ Plan	Proposed to Planning Commission	Allocated by the Planning Commission
XIth Plan	55,099	39,490

The above mentioned information highlights that against the proposed allocation to the Planning Commission, a much lower actual outlay has been provided to the Department during each of the Years



as indicated above. Besides for the Eleventh Plan, there is a huge gap between the outlay proposed to the Planning Commission and the actual outlay provided to the Department. The data indicated above also reveal that since 2005-06, the outlay provided is further reduced at R.E. stage, thus causing a reduction in the overall amount made available to the Department.

3.9 On being probed about the total fund requirement to achieve the objectives of Bharat Nirman, the Department informed that Rs. 25,300 crore towards Centre share has been assessed by the Department as detailed below:—

(Amount: Rs. in crore)

Component	Funds Required		
	Central share	State share	Total
Coverage of left over habitations of CAP, 99	3,285.285	3,285.285	6,570.570
Coverage of slipped back habitations	8,830.729	7,185.720	1,6016.49
Water Quality	6,687.090	2,229.030	8,916.120
Outstanding liability of Swajaldhara	319.600	-	319.600
Coverage of schools	461.936	461.936	923.872
DDP	952.500	-	952.500
Natural calamity	952.500	-	952.500
O&M	2,857.500	2,857.500	5,715.000
Sustainability	952.500	317.500	1,270.000
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,5300.00</b>	<b>16,336.971</b>	<b>41,636.971</b>

3.10 However, against the aforesaid proposal, the amount allocated by the Planning Commission during the four year period of Bharat Nirman is as follows:—

(Amount: Rs. in crore)

Year	Allocated by the Planning Commission	Amount Released
2005-06	4,050.00	4,060.00
2006-07	5,200.00	4,560.00
2007-08	6,500.00	6,400.00
2008-09	7,500.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,250.00</b>	

\*As on 29.2.2008

The above information indicate a shortfall of more than Rs. 2000 crore between the amount proposed and provided by the Planning Commission to achieve the Bharat Nirman targets.

3.11 The Department have further informed that the fund requirement was projected on the basis of requirement of States in their Action Plans for Bharat Nirman Programme. However, the Planning Commission has allocated the funds within the constraint of overall available resources. Even the Secretary, Department of Drinking Water Supply, (Ministry of Rural Development) during the oral evidence before the Committee stated that they have not got enough funds as per the projections made to the Planning Commission, but the funds have been increased considerably and it could not go up in a geometrical way. The Secretary further clarified as under:

“it is true that as per projections made to the Planning Commission, we have not got enough funds but in terms of absolute availability of funds, the funds have increased considerably and it cannot go up geometrically. It will go up to 38 per cent in one year and next year it cannot jump to 40 to 50 per cent because certainly there is absorption capacity and the need for fund flow to be available in such a way that projects get completed..... There are difficulties in implementation and there are fund constraints from the States’ side. So, even when the Government of India is providing funding, the matching share not being available does cause some problems in early implementation. We have to correct some of these by making the percentage share vary depending on the capability of the State.”

3.12 Besides, with regard to bridging the resource gap, the Department of Drinking Water Supply stated that they facilitate the State Governments to prepare projects for external assistance. The details of the ongoing rural water supply projects are given as under:

**World Bank assisted ongoing water sector projects**

(Amount in million US \$)

S. No.	Name of the Project	State	Date of signing	Date of closing	Loan/ credit amount	Cumulative disbursement
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Kerala rural water supply and environmental sanitation project	Kerala	04.01.01	30.09.08	55.50	55.274

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	Second Karnataka rural water supply and sanitation project	Karnataka	08.03.02	31.12.08	136.60	121.398
3.	Maharashtra rural water supply and sanitation project	Maharashtra	30.09.03	30.09.09	181.00	168.516
4.	Uttaranchal rural water supply and sanitation project	Uttarakhand	16.10.06	30.06.12	120.00	14.604
5.	Punjab rural water supply and sanitation project	Punjab	26.02.07	31.03.08	154.00	5.00

(up to January, 2008)

**3.13 The Committee find from the analysis of the data furnished by the Department that there has been a shortfall between the amount proposed to the Planning Commission and the actual amount provided to the Department during each year of the Tenth Plan, Eleventh Plan as a whole and the first two years of Eleventh Plan i.e. the years 2007-08 and 2008-09. For the Eleventh Plan, there is a huge shortfall of about Rs. 15,500 crore between the proposed allocation and the amount agreed to by the Planning Commission. The Committee are surprised with the statement of the Department that the amount has been considerably increasing over the years in absolute terms. It seems that the Department are content with the outlay provided under ARWSP even when there is considerable shortfall in the agreed to outlay during each of the year as compared to the outlay proposed by the Department thereunder. The Committee have repeatedly been emphasizing for providing adequate outlay for drinking water schemes in their earlier Reports. While reiterating their stand in this regard, the Committee emphasize that the Department should take up the matter with the Ministry of Finance/ Planning Commission for getting adequate allocation.**

**3.14 The Committee find that a few projects have been taken up with the external assistance in the States of Kerala, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Uttarakhand and Punjab. The Committee would like that similar initiative should be taken in the other States. Besides, as stated in the para above, the Government should provide adequate**

Government funding for the drinking water schemes through enhanced budgetary support from their own resources and make sincere efforts to fulfil their mandate of providing safe and adequate drinking water which is central to the livelihood system of rural people.

3.15 Further, during the oral evidence, the Secretary pointed out that some of the States face difficulties in providing 50 per cent matching share due to the fund constraints. The Committee would like the Department to undertake a detailed and comprehensive exercise to identify such States, which are facing resource crunch in consultation and collaboration with Ministry of Finance as well as the Planning Commission particularly, when the important question of providing drinking water to rural masses is involved. After having the detailed report, the Department should find out the mechanism to assist some of the specific concerns of special category of States, which do not have the capacity to pay 50 per cent matching share under the programme. The Union Government should take the desired action in this regard.

3.16 The Committee find that a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Gouri Shankar Ghose was appointed to study the activities of the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission, which was set up twenty years back, to suggest how the Mission could be restructured to meet the challenges of the future. The aforesaid Committee have already submitted the report and the Government are examining it. The Committee recommend that the Department should take earnest action to restructure the mission based on the recommendations made by the aforesaid Committee so as to enable it to face the challenges of sustainability and quality in the drinking water sector.

#### E. An analysis of the utilisation position

3.17 As per the data furnished by the Department, amount utilised against the amount earmarked since 2005-06 are given as under:—

(Amount: Rs. in crore)

Year	Amount allocated by the Planning Commission	Revised Estimates	Actual amount utilized
2005-06	4,050.00	4,060.00	4,098.03
2006-07	5,200.00	4,560.00	4,560.00
2007-08	6,500.00	6,400.00	*5,386.54

\*Upto 29.2.2008

3.18 Further, as per ARWSP norms, the funding pattern between the Government of India and States is 50:50. During the last two years, the outlay and releases towards Central and State share during the year 2006-07 and 2007-08 are as under:—

Year	Programme	BE	RE
2006-07	ARWSP	5,200.00	4,560.00
	State Share	5,078.15	4,192.23
2007-08*	ARWSP	6,500.00	4,522.49
	State Share	7,115.05	3,009.87

\*As on 31.12.2007

3.19 Besides, an analysis of the financial progress under rural water supply programme as give in the Outcome Budget reveal that a large number of States *viz.* Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Manipur, Punjab, Uttarakhand, West Bengal and Andaman & Nicobar Islands have reported less than 50 per cent of expenditure from the Central share. The data indicates 66 per cent expenditure reported from the Central share and about 45 per cent from the State share for 2007-08. With regard to the financial progress made in 2006-07 the outcome budget indicate that reported expenditure was 76 per cent for the Central Share and 81 per cent from the State Share. The Information further indicate that for the following States *viz.* A&N Islands, Dadar and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu, Lakshadweep, Puducherry, Delhi and Chandigarh there was nil expenditure against the allocation. The State-wise details in this regard are given at *Appendix-II & III.*

3.20 With regard to the unspent balances with the States under ARWSP, the Department informed that more than Rs. 1803 crore are lying unspent as on 31 December, 2007. The State-wise details of the unspent balances are given at *Appendix-IV.*

3.21 On being questioned about the under utilisation of resources, the Department informed that the exact position of the State share fund utilisation would be known after the receipt of the fund utilisation reports from the State Government. Further, the Department informed that expenditure picks up after monsoon and States tend to utilise more Central share first and minimum 60 per cent State share so that the second installment is released well in time. Further, the Department stated that expenditure both under Accelerated Rural Water Supply

Programme (ARWSP) and State share picks up in the last quarter of the financial year. With regard to taking corrective measures to ensure better utilisation of resources, the Department maintained that they regularly hold review meetings with the States especially with North Eastern States to sort out their specific problems. The Department in their reply to supplementary List of Points stated that some States, due to variety of reasons are unable to expedite the pace of utilisation of funds, which also affects further release of funds to such States and overall fund utilisation position under the programme. Further some habitations in States are in remote and inaccessible areas, which affect the overall implementation as well as reporting. Besides, collection of data from the field offices in the States also takes some time to complete and communicate to the Government of India.

**3.22 The Committee note that not only the Department are getting lesser allocation than the outlay proposed to Planning Commission, whatever amount is allocated at BE stage is further reduced at RE stage. During the year 2006-07, the outlay of Rs.5,200 crore provided at BE stage was reduced to Rs. 4,560 crore at RE stage. Then during the year 2007-08, the BE of Rs. 6,500 crore was reduced to Rs. 6,400 crore. The releases upto 29 February 2008 were to the tune of Rs. 5,386 crore. The Committee express serious concern over the reduction of outlay at RE stage particularly when the scheme is for providing drinking water to rural masses. The Committee strongly recommend to take up the matter with the Planning Commission so that whatever allocation is made at BE stage is not reduced at the RE stage. The Department on their part should make all efforts to ensure cent per cent utilization of the resources.**

**3.23 The Committee find from the data provided by the Department in the Outcome Budget that during the year 2006-07, Rs. 1,088.36 crore were lying as opening balances with various State Governments. As regards the State-wise position, the under spending was more in Jharkhand where the expenditure was only 44.48 per cent followed by Punjab where 47.30 per cent of funds were lying unspent. Worst is the position in A&N Islands, Dadar and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu, Lakshadweep, Puducherry, Delhi and Chandigarh, where the expenditure reported is nil against the indicated releases. Further the expenditure reported under Union Government share is 76.19 per cent whereas the expenditure reported under State share is 81.40 per cent during 2006-07. During the year 2007-08, Rs. 1,803 crore have been stated to be the unspent balances in various States. The maximum unspent balances are with West Bengal i.e. Rs. 2,49,85.42 lakh, Maharashtra Rs. 2,39,10.85 lakh,**

Bihar Rs. 1,80,54.77 lakh, Uttar Pradesh Rs. 1,66,82.99 lakh and Madhya Pradesh Rs. 1,19,30.73 lakh. The Committee have repeatedly been expressing concern over the huge opening balances lying with the State Governments. In spite of that, the trend of opening balances persists during each year. The Committee strongly recommend to analyze the reasons in the States where the under-spending is a recurrent feature. The Department should obtain Reports from all the States regarding non-utilisation of funds and inform the Committee accordingly. The Committee would like the Department to indicate the specific reasons for nil utilization of outlay in some of the States/UTs.

3.24 The Committee had earlier recommended (refer para 4.12 of 28th Report) revising the format of MPRs so as to include a component wherein States furnish specific reasons for non-utilisation of resources. Such a mechanism will not only make the States responsible but would also help the Union as well as the State Governments to take timely remedial measures. The Committee while reiterating the earlier recommendation would like that the desired action on the suggested lines should be taken and the Committee apprised accordingly.

## CHAPTER IV

### PHYSICAL PROGRESS UNDER ACCELERATED RURAL WATER SUPPLY PROGRAMME (ARWSP)

As per the information provided by the Department, the status of coverage of habitations after the Habitation Survey 2003 and the Random Survey conducted by the Monitoring Division of the Ministry in 2006 is given as below:—

Category	Number of Habitations as per Random Survey in 2006
Fully Covered	12,59,134
Partially Covered	1,94,067
Not Covered	1,45,518
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,98,719</b>

The latest State-wise data with regard to the above are given at *Appendix-V*.

4.2 Further, as per the goals of Bharat Nirman, about 55,067 uncovered and 3.31 lakh slipped back habitations are to be covered by 2008-09. The targets and achievements during the first three years of Bharat Nirman period is given as under:—

Component	Target (2005-09)	2005-06		2006-07		2007-08		Cumulative Ach.	Cumulative percentage achievement <i>vis a viz</i> overall targets
		Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.		
Uncovered Habitations	55,067	11,897	13,121	18,120	12,440	16,886	6,072	31,633	57%
Slipped-back Habitations	3,31,604	34,373	79,544	40,000	89,580	90,000	44,777	213,901	64%
Quality-affected habitations	2,16,968	10,000	4,550	15,000	5,330	48,613	84,016	93,896	43%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,03,639</b>	<b>56,270</b>	<b>97,215</b>	<b>73,120</b>	<b>107,350</b>	<b>1,55,499</b>	<b>1,34,865</b>	<b>3,39,430</b>	<b>56%</b>



The aforesaid data indicate the achievement with regard to uncovered habitations as around 70 per cent and 35 per cent as compare to the set targets during the year 2006-07 and 2007-08 respectively.

4.3 Further, with regard to the coverage of slipped back habitations, the Bharat Nirman target was to cover the 3.31 lakh habitations, against which the achievement has been around 2.14 lakh till date, thus marking an underachievement of approximately 1.18 lakh slipped back habitations. Besides, during 2005-06 and 2006-07, the achievement has surpassed the targets but during 2007-08, the achievement was only 50 per cent of the targets set for the purpose. The above-mentioned data further indicate that higher achievements *vis-à-vis* targets are being quoted for 2005-06 and 2006-07, due to achievement of slipped back habitations.

4.4 Besides, the Department informed that during the Eleventh Plan period 2,217 Not Covered; 26,308 Partially Covered and 1,59,429 slipped back habitations remain to be covered. The above-mentioned information reveal that there are approximately 1.45 lakh Not Covered and 1.94 lakh Partially Covered habitations in the country in 2006 which need to be covered on a priority basis. However, the Eleventh Plan strategy target to cover only 2,217 Not Covered and 26,308 Partially Covered along with 1,59,429 slipped back habitations.

4.5 On being questioned about the confusion being created with regard to actual status of coverage due to inclusion of slipped back category, the Department informed that it is a fact that in the first two years of Bharat Nirman, States have performed very well in terms of coverage under slipped-back category, fully covered habitations slip back to NC/ PC category due to variety of reasons and there is a need for bring them back to fully covered category. Accordingly, these habitations have been included under Bharat Nirman and with comparatively lesser investments and these slipped-back habitations have been brought back to fully covered category so that people living therein again start getting adequate water throughout the year. The Secretary, during the course of oral evidence observed as below:—

“I had promised in the last two sittings that we are now going to make the data current and as of now I am happy to report that with excessive and intensive training given to all the States, all the States have started entering the data on an on-line basis. .... We have placed this also in our website in the public domain that any Member of Parliament or any other person from

outside can go and see the data and give us an update. .... It has been a huge exercise for us and we have been able to successfully complete it as far as data from all the States are concerned.....”

4.6 With regard to updation of online data, the Secretary further stated as under:

“.... as of now, we have got updated figures as on 1 April, 2007. We are again updating it on 1 April, 2008 and this figure will be updated by 30 April, 2008. After that we hope during the year 2008-09 as and when there are changes in the data, it will be recorded immediately habitation-wise.”

**4.7 The Committee appreciate that after the continuous pursuance of the issue with regard to finding out the ground reality in respect of coverage of habitations, the results of habitations survey 2003 could be made available and all the States have started entering the data online. The data made available by the survey was updated as on 1 April, 2007 and now the efforts are being made to update it further upto 1 April, 2008. The Secretary has further assured that during the year 2008-09, the data will be updated on a continuous basis. While complimenting the Department on the serious efforts made in this regard, the Committee would like that the efforts should be continued so that there is transparency with regard to the actual situation in respect of availability of drinking water in rural areas. The availability of updated baseline data would certainly help the country in future planning and making projections.**

4.8 The Committee further find that certain targets were fixed for uncovered and slipped back habitations during the Bharat Nirman period. The analysis of the achievements made in this regard indicates that during the first three years of Bharat Nirman period only 57 per cent of the targets could be achieved under the category of uncovered habitations while 64 per cent of the targets could be achieved under slipped back habitations. The Committee have doubts about achieving the remaining targets with the slow pace of implementation of Bharat Nirman particularly when the year 2008-09 is the last year of the programme. The Committee would like the Department to work out a strategy urgently to achieve the said targets within the stipulated time frame. The Committee may also be apprised of the same.

4.9 The Committee note that before 2003 survey the information was being maintained with regard to not covered habitations and partially covered habitations. Not covered habitations were such habitations, which were mainly in the difficult geographical areas. After compilation of the data based on 2003 survey, it seems that slipped back habitations have been included in the not covered and partially covered habitations. 1,45,518 not covered and 1,94,067 partially covered habitations have been indicated as per the latest survey. There is no slipped back category as per the habitation survey results. However, during the Bharat Nirman period, there is a category of slipped back habitations. This disparity in categorization creates utter confusion with regard to the status of coverage of partially covered and not covered habitations. The Committee would like the Department to clarify the position in this regard. Besides, the Committee strongly recommend that the data for the targets and achievements with regard to slipped back category should be depicted separately and not clubbed with the data relating to not covered and partially covered habitations, so as to have a fair idea about the not covered and partially covered habitations. Besides, the Committee feel that in the latest updated data, it is difficult to find out as to how many not covered habitations are in difficult terrains where the State Governments find it difficult to cover those habitations. The Department should clarify the position in this regard. The Committee desire that the position should be made clear in the data in order to facilitate effective monitoring and implementation.

4.10 Further, the Committee note with dismay that physical performance under ARWSP of uncovered habitations is not up to the mark. The underachievement of targets for 2006-07 has been about 30 per cent and for 2007-08, it is about 70 per cent. Though the Department are optimistic about achieving the targets, the ground reality in this regard suggests otherwise. The Committee would like the Department to shun their complacent approach and undertake concrete and strict measures to ensure achievement of the targets by the States. The Committee may be apprised of the concrete action taken in this regard.

## CHAPTER V

### SUSTAINABILITY AND QUALITY

#### QUALITY

##### A. Underperformance with regard to addressing quality affected habitations

As per the survey conducted by the States and reported as on 1 April 2005, there were 2,16,968 habitations affected with various chemical contamination like arsenic, fluoride, salinity, iron, nitrate and combination of these. The State Governments while submitting the Bharat Nirman Action Plans and compiled as on 1 April 2006 indicated the number of water quality affected habitations as 1,95,813. State-wise break-up is provided at *Appendix-VI*.

5.2 The Secretary, during the oral evidence admitted that under Bharat Nirman, the performance under quality-affected area is not so satisfactory. With regard to the above issue, the Secretary stated as under:—

“Projects in quality affected habitations have a longer gestation period but I am happy to report to you that as on today we have addressed all our arsenic cases...Out of over 30,000 fluoride cases, we have taken arsenic and fluoride as the most dangerous contaminants, 20,000 fluoride cases have been addressed and 10,000 will be addressed by the current year, hopefully by March, 2008..... For iron we have taken up a programme with the Central Institute at Bhubneswar where they have developed an excellent filtration system. .... We hope that the problem of iron contamination will completely be solved by the end of 2009. The Central Institute in Bhavnagar has been made the nodal agency and training is being given for all the saline areas to address the salinity problem... Some use of reverse osmosis which involves high technology and also high operation and maintenance cost, particularly using solar energy etc., this could be an option.”

5.3 The Secretary on the issue of pollution of groundwater stated as under:—

“There have been reports of many industries who in order to be able to get over the requirement of effluent treatment are simply

pumping the effluents back into the ground and it is contaminating the ground water. This is a serious concern.....

We would like to consider pollution of drinking water as a very serious offence, much more serious than other crimes.....It is difficult to implement, but we are working on the draft model legislation which can highlight this issue.....We, at the moment, have told the States that the problem of nitrate, particularly, is arising because of the urban waste in rural areas and that the only solution to the nitrate problem in the water is to prevent urban sewage being dumped in rural areas.....

It is urban waste which is causing the nitrate problem.....Iron is the largest number. Approximately 70,000 villages are still to be covered under the contaminant iron. One of the easiest ways of dealing with iron is allowing dilution. So, rainwater harvesting or recharging of the ground water source will completely reduce the iron.... For iron we have developed a model technology which is very low cost, which can be produced locally and which can be with zero operational cost put in all villages. Throughout this year, 2008-09, we shall be concentrating on iron removal technology put in place in 70,000 villages. This is easily done.”

5.4 When enquired about the targets and achievements under the Bharat Nirman period for addressing quality affected habitations, the Department furnished the following information:

Year	Target	Achievement
2005-06	10,000	4,550
2006-07	15,000	5,330
2007-08	48,613	45,833

5.5 On being enquired about the reasons for under-performance, the Department stated that during the first year of the Bharat Nirman (2005-06), the Government had not launched the Revised sub-Mission programme for focused funding to tackle water quality affected habitations. State Governments have been asked to tackle water quality problems from the 15 per cent ARWSP funds provided to them. The revised sub-Mission programme was launched in 2006-07 and the States have been requested to prioritize tackling arsenic (slow killer) and fluoride (slow crippler) problems. States have prioritized tackling these two contaminants mostly with alternate safe drinking water supply projects from distant sources. For tackling water quality problem,

preparation of detailed project report too takes times and after appraisal/approval, the same is implemented. The project completion period varies anywhere between 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> to 3 years depending upon the size of the project. Therefore, the coverage reported during these two years is low.

#### **B. National Rural Drinking Water Quality Management and Surveillance Programme (NRDWQM&SP)**

5.6 The NRDWQM&SP launched in the country in February, 2006 aims at testing of all drinking water sources by grass root level workers in each Panchayat by simple-to-use field test kits and joint sanitary surveys. The Department informed that under the programme, NRDWQM&SP, about 11.66 lakh grass root level workers need to be trained for carrying out regular water quality monitoring and surveillance activities. The Department further informed that so far about 1.96 lakh such workers have been trained.

5.7 The above information indicates that still about 9.5 lakh such workers need to be trained under the programme. During examination of the Demands for Grants (2007-08), the Committee had been informed that the training would be completed by July, 2007. In the Outcome Budget(2008-09), the Department have indicated that the training would be completed by February, 2008. The Department, however, did not clarify the reasons for the continuous extension of the said deadline, but have indicated that they have been regularly pursuing the matter with the States.

5.8 It is needless to point out that contaminated harmful sources of water in rural areas in the country may cause a severe crisis and trap the people in vicious cycle of poverty and disease. The Committee would emphasize that all the efforts made with regard to improving the coverage status and bringing about sustainability of sources and the systems become meaningless in the absence of clean and safe drinking water. The Government should launch a nationwide awareness programme about the perils of contaminated water on the model of AIDS, Polio campaigns etc. The Department may provide inputs for the said campaign for disseminating information and sensitizing the people on the said aspect. The programme should aim at promoting linkages between water, sanitation, hygiene, health and environment policies through involvement of all stakeholders *viz.*, policy makers, civil society, local authorities, NGOs and individuals in the field.

5.9 Besides creating awareness, the problem of contaminated water which has emerged as a serious threat to the livelihood systems of rural poor, itself needs to be tackled on a priority basis. While continuing the initiatives being taken with regard to the treatment of contaminated water, there is an urgent need to focus on preventive measures to check water contamination. In this regard, the Committee would like to emphasize the urgent need for legislative measures to check the tendency of industries to dump the effluents back into the ground without treating, which is contaminating the ground water and is a serious threat to the agriculture and environment. The Secretary, during the course of oral evidence, has informed that the Department are working on a draft Model Legislation, in order to address the aforesaid issue. The Committee strongly recommend that the Model Legislation should be drafted in consultation with the experts, policy makers, all the related Ministries, State Governments and all the stakeholders expeditiously. The proposed legislation should provide for punitive measures against the offence of polluting drinking water sources.

5.10 Further, the Committee are perturbed to note the dismal performance of quality-affected habitations under the Bharat Nirman programme, wherein all quality-affected habitations were to be covered by 2008-09. However, the performance of quality-affected habitations indicate only about 50 per cent achievement so far with only one year of the Bharat Nirman Programme remaining. The Committee take strong exception on the underachievement of targets in such a critical area. The Committee desire that the Department should take all measures to ensure that all the remaining quality affected habitations are addressed on a priority basis by chalking out an immediate Action Plan in this regard.

5.11 As discussed during the oral evidence of the Department, a large number of grass root level workers still need to be trained under the NRDWQM and SP programme for testing water quality in village Panchayats. The Committee feel that towards this end, the Department should work in a mission mode and take all the necessary steps to complete the training within a stipulated time frame. Further, the programme may be expanded to include students from schools, colleges, NSS, NCC Cadets and other youth organizations where the same training for testing water quality at local level and improving its quality by using simple low cost techniques for treating contaminated water may be imparted. This may help to find a practical and a lasting solution to the problem of contaminated water according to the Committee. Besides, the

services of NGOs/VOs having expertise in the field may also be taken by the Department. The Committee would like the Department to take the necessary action in this direction and revise the guidelines accordingly.

5.12 While examining DFG of the year 2007-08, the Committee had recommended that the Union Government should urge upon the States to set up rural local marts with the aid of district authorities where simple and low cost techniques for treating contaminated water may be marketed. The Committee reiterate their suggestion and urge them to take concrete action on the suggested lines. The Committee feel that the dangers of potentially harmful sources of water are immense and imminent and the Department need to undertake broad interventions through targeted action for better and dignified living conditions for rural populace and for promoting environment sustainability.

## **SUSTAINABILITY**

### **A. Measures taken by the Department to promote sustainability**

5.13 The Committee, in their previous Reports have been suggesting to the Department to give more stress to the issue of sustainability both of the sources and the systems, which have emerged as critical concerns over the years. The Department, on the aforesaid issue have been making efforts through workshops, seminars and conferences. Some of the recent initiatives taken by the Department are described below:

A two-day Conference of Minister in-charge of rural drinking water supply and sanitation in States and Union Territories was held on July 4-5, 2007 in the Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. During the inauguration, the Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh released the theme documents—Bringing sustainability in Drinking Water Schemes in Rural India, and Sanitation for All. ‘Sustainability of water sources’ and ‘Sanitation for All’ were the main focus of the Conference. During the Conference, an exhibition on ‘Sustainability of water sources’ and ‘Sanitation for All’—was inaugurated by the Hon’ble Minister for Rural Development, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh on 3 July, 2007, to create awareness amongst people of the various technology options and best practices for bringing better access to water and sanitation facilities. The exhibition provided an opportunity to showcase the initiatives taken by various States, Ministers and organizations in this direction.



A workshop on 'Bringing Sustainability to rural drinking water Supply Schemes' was held on May 16, 2007, at the Vigyan Bhawan Annexe, New Delhi. The workshop witnessed the representation of Secretaries, senior officials, technical experts of PHEDs from various States and experts from renowned NGOs like CSE—New Delhi, Tarun Bharat Sangh—Alwar (Rajasthan), KMVS—Kutch (Gujarat) and BAIF – Pune. Deliberations and presentations from various State officials and presentations from various State officials and NGO experts focused on strategies for the achievement of full coverage, involving the communities and thereby addressing the problem of sustainability of drinking water supply schemes.

**B. Targets and achievement with regard to slipped back habitations.**

5.14 However, despite the efforts of the Department, a large number of incidences of slippages of habitations from FC to PC and PC to NC have been taking place due to the unsustainable sources and system. These happen due to the variety of reasons such as:—

- Sources going dry or lowering of the ground water table.
- Sources becoming quality affected
- Systems outliving their life.
- Systems working below rated capacity due to poor operation and maintenance.

5.15 As per the objectives of Bharat Nirman, there were about 3.31 lakh slipped back habitations that were to be covered during the four year period of Bharat Nirman. The achievement for the same has been 2.14 lakh during the first three years of Bharat Nirman, thus leaving about 1 lakh 18 thousand more slipped back habitations that need to be covered in the last year of Bharat Nirman.

Year	Target	Achievement
2006-07	40,000	89,580
2007-08	90,000	36,387
2008-09	84,000	-

However, slippages are dynamic and the covered slipped habitations also continually fall back to PC or NC status.

This can be verified from the State-wise data of coverage status reported by the Department for the year 2007-08 where large number

of States such as Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh etc. do not have any uncovered habitations, but large number of slipped back habitations (The details are given at *Appendix VII*).

### **C. Depletion of ground water and Rainwater Harvesting**

5.16 One of the primary reasons for incidences of slippages is fast depleting ground water due to over-extraction as more than 80 per cent of drinking water needs are met by the ground water source. A large number of schemes of drinking water, use ground water through hand-pumps etc., stand pipes, bore-wells, ponds etc. To tackle the same, there is a need to put check on the extraction of ground water and recharge the ground water through rainwater harvesting.

5.17 The Secretary during the course of oral evidence elaborated on the issue and explained as under:—

“There is a huge problem because ground water tables are going down very much.....Our policy in the past has been to move from surface water to ground water. From 1980 to 2000 we depended mainly on ground water and our dependence on ground water was to the extent of 80 per cent. We now need to move out of ground water and start depending on surface water also, which had been abandoned in the past. Under our own scheme, we have moved to surface water and rainwater harvesting now. If you depend only 30 per cent on ground water, 20 per cent on surface water and another 20 per cent on rainwater, we will allow the ground to rest a little bit and it will bring water security. We are going to the Cabinet to treat this component as 100 per cent grant to the States so that it is an incentive to them to bring sustainability into the scheme.....”

5.18 The Secretary, on the issue of rainwater harvesting, further explained as under:—

“We hope that by 2008-09 we should be able to complete the training of 5 persons in each village so that they have the knowledge of how to do sustainability measures. We are trying to develop water plans for each village, how to find water, how to forecast for the demand of water and manage it. Again, we need to concentrate in the 11th Plan period not so much on the quantity, but on sustainability. Sustainability will take care of it if we move to surface water and rainwater harvesting. If rooftop rainwater harvesting is taken up at least in rainy seasons, then

people do not have to go 4 kms. To get water as the hon. Member mentioned. We are encouraging every rural household to have a rainwater harvesting structure and we want that at least a group of houses to have it so that it can contribute at least 20 per cent of their water needs. This is being done by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj or Water Resources and our Ministry moving away from over dependence on ground water and moving towards surface water and rainwater harvesting will bring some kind of sustainability”.

5.19 Further, during oral evidence of the Department on the subject, another pertinent issue that surfaced related to the convergence of funds and schemes for water conservation. The Secretary, on the issue stated as under:—

“A lot of funds have been provided under the NREGA. The first priority is for water conservation and water bodies. So far rejuvenation of water tanks, funds are being provided from the Ministry of Panchayati Raj of Water resources. There are seven schemes even in the GOI, which give funds....We are trying to bring a link between all these so that additional resources are made available from the other Departments particularly for providing drinking water.”

#### **D. Pursuance with States to promote sustainability measures**

5.20 Further, model ground water legislation was drafted by the Ministry of Water Resources to check over exploitation of ground water. However, as discussed during the oral evidence, very few States have enacted the legislation for regulation and control of ground water. The effective implementation of the said legislation has a direct bearing on the scenario of drinking water in rural areas, which is the mandate of the Department of Drinking water supply. In the Action Taken Report on the 28th Report (refer para 17 of the 32nd Report), the Department had stated that Ministry of Water Resources need to decide about the legislation and as such, the Department of Drinking water supply has a limited role.

5.21 With regard to utilization of 5 per cent amount under ARWSP earmarked for sustainability by the States, the Committee in their previous Reports had been insisting to the Department to ensure that the said amount is utilized by the States by making utilization of amount a precondition for fund allocation. The matter had been further pursued in the Action taken Report. The Department on the said matter

responded by saying that they are strongly pursuing with States to adopt suitability measures and in this connection, sustained efforts are being made. Further a proposal for incentives to State for ensuring sustainability of drinking water sources and system is under consideration. In replies to supplementary List of Points, the Department have stated that it has been decided that all drinking water supply projects should have a sustainability component built into it, so that habitations once covered do not slip back. Further the Department informed that a proposal has been formulated under which it is proposed to increase the ceiling of ARWSP funds from the existing 5 per cent to 20 per cent and funding pattern from 75:25 between Centre and State to 100 per cent funding from the Government of India. The proposal is under active consideration.

#### **E. Sustainability of the systems**

5.22 Further, on the issue of sustainability of the systems, the point made by the Department related to the high Operation and Maintenance costs due to which systems become defunct over a period of time. Another issue brought forth by the Department is that huge drinking water supply projects are commissioned and there is nobody to take care of them. Under the 73rd Constitution Amendment Act, all the drinking water projects are to be handed over to Panchayats. Many States have handed over them on paper, but in reality Panchayats have not taken over them. Additional funds have been given in the 12th Finance Commission to each and every Panchayat. Rs.40 crore has been distributed for operation and maintenance of water supply and sanitation projects.

The Secretary, on the said issue clarified as under:—

“The Panchayats do not have the technical capability to repair them. We requested the PHED staff to be deployed there at least for a group of Panchayats. For eg. The Junior Engineer is not there. There is resistance from the PHED staff. We are advising the States that Panchayats can recruit their own staff, if necessary.”

**5.23 The Committee would like to stress that since UN has prioritized access to drinking water as one of its Millennium Development Goals, the issue of sustainability of sources and the Systems has assumed prime significance. Over the years the Committee have been stressing upon the Government to evolve a comprehensive strategy in this regard. The Committee are happy to note that the Department are undertaking measures to promote sustainability through holding of seminars, workshops, conference**

and raising awareness through the same. The Committee, however, maintain, that while the Department should continue with such efforts, more action needs to be taken on the ground to improve water resources management to bring about sustainability of sources and systems.

5.24 The model legislation for control on over extraction of ground water, if and when implemented in letter and spirit by all the States can go a long way in bringing about sustainability of sources as depletion of ground water table due to excessive and uncontrolled extraction of the water is the main cause for the sources going dry. In this regard, the Committee would draw attention to their earlier recommendation (refer para 5.11 of the 28th Report) and urge upon the Department to ensure that the said legislation is put in place by the States at the earliest since the depleting ground water table has already started threatening the availability of drinking water in both rural and urban areas. The Department in the action taken replies on Report on Demand for grants (2007-08) had expressed helplessness by stating that it has a limited role since the respective State legislatures have to decide about the legislation.

The Committee would again like the Department to interact assertively with the Ministry of Water Resources and along with them with the State Governments to emphasize upon them the need to put such a legislation in place at the earliest. The Department should also hold review meetings with the States in this regard. The Committee desire that the Department should make all efforts in coordination with the Ministry of Water Resources to motivate the State Governments to implement the said legislation in a time bound manner and keep the Committee informed about the concrete action taken in this regard.

5.25 The Committee further note that over extraction of ground water in urban areas by big builders, industrial houses etc. adversely affect the availability of water in rural areas. The Committee desire that the issue should be addressed in the model legislation being worked out by the Ministry as stated by the Secretary and referred to in the earlier para of the report, so as to have relevant provisions in the building by-laws of the various State Governments in this regard.

5.26 Further, another issue interlinked to the issue of depleting ground water table is rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water. The Committee in the previous Demands for Grant

Reports had made a series of recommendations with respect to the said issue. The Committee feel that depletion of ground water table is reaching a critical level and unless urgent action is taken to promote conjunctive use of water through ground, surface and rainwater, a situation of extreme water stress and scarcity may emerge. The Committee feel that the Department should work in a proactive mode to promote rainwater harvesting on a massive scale. For this, mass awareness campaign may be launched where information about simple methods for rainwater harvesting may be disseminated widely. Besides, as suggested by the Committee in their previous Report, the Department should work with the Ministry of Water Resources and other Departments to ensure that rainwater harvesting structures are installed in all new rural constructions and encourage the State Governments to modify their building by-laws accordingly. The Committee would also like to reiterate that the issue of identifying an exclusive Private/Government Agency to give technical inputs for promoting rain water harvesting at the earliest should be taken up with each State. The names of agencies so identified should be hosted on the Department's website. The Department may liberally involve NGOs/VOs active in the field in different regions and provide assistance to them through financial grants for the said purpose. The Committee would like the Government to seriously consider the suggestions of the Committee and take concrete actions on the suggested lines.

5.27 With regard to ensuring that States utilize 5 per cent amount under ARWSP earmarked for sustainability, the Committee have been recommending to the Department to ensure accountability from the States by evolving appropriate mechanisms in this regard. The Committee have learnt that there is a proposal to increase the said amount from 5 to 20 per cent. The Committee urge that the Department should carry out the necessary groundwork before such a proposal is implemented as presently even 5 per cent of the amount is not being utilised. The Committee desire that the Department should consider providing incentives/grants separately to the States to promote sustainability measures and conjunctive use of water.

5.28 Panchayats have a Central role in ensuring sustainability of systems and sources, particularly when as per the mandate of the Constitution, 73rd Amendment Act all the drinking water projects are to be handed over to Panchayats. However, as informed by the Department, many State Governments have handed over the drinking water schemes on paper but in reality, the Panchayats have not taken over them. The Committee find that additional funds have been

given in Twelfth Finance Commission to each and every Panchayat. In this regard, Rs.40 crore has been distributed for operation and maintenance of water supply and sanitation projects to Panchayats. As regards the issue of equipping Panchayats with technical staff to enable these institutions to handle the huge responsibility with regard to maintenance of sources and systems, the Secretary has informed that the Department had requested the PHED staff to be deployed at least for a group of Panchayats. But there is resistance from the PHED staff and the Department are advising Panchayats to recruit their own staff. In the aforesaid scenario, the Committee conclude that much needs to be done to build the financial and functional capacity of Panchayats in this regard. There is an urgent need to take up this issue with various State Governments so that ultimately the responsibility of maintenance of systems and sources of drinking water is transferred to the Panchayats in the real sense. While appreciating the fact that the Finance Commission has allocated exclusive outlay for the maintenance of water supply and sanitation projects, the Committee desire that the issue with regard to providing technical staff should be taken up with the State Governments. Besides, the Department should also take up the issue of equipping Panchayats in this regard with the sister Ministry i.e. Ministry of Panchayati Raj. The concrete action taken in this regard should be communicated to the Committee.

5.29 The Committee note that the main activity to be undertaken under one of the flagship programmes of the Government i.e. NREGA is water conservation and water bodies. There are many watershed schemes of different Ministries/Departments under which the issues related to water conservation are being addressed. In addition, the State Governments may have their own schemes for water conservation. The Committee are of the opinion that there is an urgent need to pool together different initiatives taken by various quarters by proper coordination between the various Ministries of Union Government and the various Departments of State Governments and all other concerned so that the issue of water conservation is addressed in a mission mode. The Committee strongly recommend that Government should take all necessary measures in this regard and inform the Committee accordingly.

## CHAPTER VI

### TOTAL SANITATION CAMPAIGN (TSC)

#### A. Evolution of schemes for rural sanitation

The Central Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP) launched in 1986 aimed at improving the quality and life of rural people and provide privacy and dignity to women through 100 per cent subsidy for construction of sanitary latrines for SCs/STs and landless labourers and subsidy as per the prevailing rates in the State to others. The concept of sanitation was expanded in 1993 to include personal hygiene, home sanitation, safe water and garbage excreta and wastewater disposal. The programme was restructured *w.e.f.* 1 April 1999 where TSC moves away from the principle of State-wise allocation to demand driven approach. The Programme gives emphasis on Information Education and Communication (IEC) for demand generation for sanitation facilities. It also laid emphasis on school sanitation and hygiene education for bringing attitudinal and behavioral changes for relevant and hygiene practices from young age itself.

6.2 India is one of the 189 Member States of the United Nations who are committed to achieve the Millennium Development Goal (MDG), through a series of time bound and quantified targets. One of the important targets of MDG is reducing by half the percentage of people with regard to sustainable access to safe drinking water and total sanitation by 2015. To this end, the Department have approved projects for 584 rural districts and hope to achieve the MDG by 2010 and full sanitation by 2012. Also, with respect to indicators for defining sanitation facilities to rural population, the Department informed that the main indicator for defining coverage is access to toilets to a household. Besides this indicator, data on sanitation facilities in schools and anganwadis are also collated.

#### B. Physical Performance under TSC

6.3 The Department informed that TSC projects are now approved for 584 rural districts. The remaining districts that are rural and for which projects have not been received from States are Kiphire and Longleng (Nagaland) and Ludhiana (Punjab). Funds have been given to these districts for Baseline survey and preparing the project.



6.4 The Total Sanitation Campaign being a demand driven programme, no annual targets are set. The percentage coverage of rural population for last five years is as follows:—

Year	Percentage Coverage
2002-03	22.86%
2003-04	27.34%
2004-05	30.56%
2005-06	37.66%
2006-07	44.81%

6.5 In this regard, the Secretary during the oral evidence stated as under:—

“The sanitation campaign has been a big success story in this country. Of course, there is still much to be done. If you consider in 1981 only one per cent of the households were covered; in 1991 only 11 per cent were covered; in 2001 only 21 per cent and today we have reached 52 per cent..... We have put for ourselves the target of meeting the Millennium Development Goal well before the Millennium Development Goals ends in 2012.....”

6.6 Further, as per the information provided by the Department, expected Outcomes for 2007-08 under TSC were 120 lakh IHHL out of which achievement reported was 94,87,020 till February, 2008.

### C. Financial performance

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Outlay	Actual amount spent
2005-06	700	660.71
2006-07	800	737.91
2007-08	1060	886.07*

\*as on 29.2.2008

6.7 The Department informed that the States not performing well in financial terms, besides Manipur and Meghalaya and Punjab, Assam, Jammu & Kashmir and Bihar. These States are specially monitored in

monthly meetings and all assistance required is discussed and acted upon. Also, NGOs have been identified by CAPART to help district authorities of these States in the implementation.

6.8 To encourage PRIs in sanitation promotion, an incentive scheme called Nirmal Gram Puraskar has been launched. Those PRIs, which completely eliminate the practice of open defecation, provide water supply and toilet facility to schools and Anganwadis maintain general cleanliness, are eligible for the award.

6.9 The first Nirmal Gram Puraskar was given by His Excellency, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, the then President of India on 24 February, 2005 to 38 Gram Panchayats and 2 Block Panchayats from 6 States. In 2006, 760 Gram Panchayats and 9 Block Panchayats received award from His Excellency the President of India on 23 March, 2006. Recipients were from 14 States of the country. In 2007, 4,945 Gram Panchayats, 14 Block Panchayats and 27 NGOs received this Award.

6.10 The Secretary during the course of oral evidence while elaborating on the success of the aforesaid initiatives stated as under:—

“The Nirmal Gram Puraskar has been a tremendous success. It rose from about 38 winners in 2005 to 5,000 winners last year. This year we have record of over 32,000 applications from villages all over the country”

The Secretary further added as under:—

“... I am happy to report to you that perhaps this year we may have at least one State being declared totally sanitized and that State could be Sikkim. As you are aware normally in the North-Eastern Region the States are relatively backward in performance but in the sanitation campaign Sikkim has shown the way to the rest of the country that is far ahead of other States.”

**6.11 The Committee express concern on the inadequate access of large number of rural households in the country to basic sanitation. The Committee are perturbed to note that despite the pace of implementation of Total Sanitation Campaign picking up over the years, the percentage coverage of rural population reflects a dismal picture where only about 49.6 per cent population is covered with sanitation facilities. The Committee feel that mere approval of projects in large number of districts should not be the only criteria to determine the sanitation scenario in the country. They would**

recommend that in the 'International Year of Sanitation', the Department should take concerted action with a multipronged strategy to achieve the Millennium Development Goal.

6.12 The Department have informed that TSC projects are approved for 584 rural districts of the country which implies that almost all the districts in the country are covered under TSC. However, the increase in the percentage of the people with access to basic sanitation has not been commensurate with the improvement of TSC implementation and approval of projects for large number of districts. The Committee feel that more awareness and IEC activities need to be undertaken so that more project proposals are forthcoming from the States and are implemented in letter and spirit in each district. The Committee hold that on the lines of the baseline data of habitations with drinking water facilities, the Department should evolve online system to include names of TSC projects in each district along with relevant details such as the percentage of people having access to sanitation, number of toilets, IHHL, mobile toilets constructed, status of IEC activities etc. This would help in bringing about more transparency and better monitoring to ensure that the approved projects function properly.

6.13 Further with respect to spreading awareness about hygienic and sanitation practices to ensure that toilets constructed are actually used for the purpose, the Committee recommend that the curriculum in schools and colleges may be suitably modified to include good practices in water and sanitation habits. This would create more awareness about the programme and generate more demand, which is crucial to the success of the programme.

6.14 The Committee while examining the subject learnt that the main indicator for defining coverage is 'access to toilets to a household'. The Committee feel that there may be instances where toilets constructed may not have adequate water availability, may become dysfunctional over a period of time, the people do not have the mindset to use the toilets or they may be of a lower standard due to infrastructural constraints. The Committee urge upon the Department to broaden the scope of sanitation and ensure that all the aspects related to IEC and usage of toilets are taken into account before sanctioning amount for the projects.

6.15 The Committee feel that with respect to sanitation, strict vigilance and monitoring play a key role. The Committee note that few States such as Manipur, Meghalaya, Punjab, Assam, J & K and

Bihar are not reporting satisfactory expenditure of funds in this regard. For such States, NGOs have been identified by CAPART to help district authorities in this regard. The Committee strongly urge the Department to maintain a system of regular monitoring through review meetings as well as field visits. The services of DLMs and NLMs to ensure better utilizations of funds as well as verifying the same through physical parameters should also be used in this regard.

6.16 The Committee appreciate the initiative taken by the Department to encourage PRIs in sanitation promotion by awarding Nirmal Gram Puraskar to a PRI which completely eliminates the practice of open defecation, provide water supply and toilet facility to schools and Anganwadis and maintains general cleanliness. The number of PRIs who have won the Nirmal Gram Puraskar has risen from 38 in 2005 to 5000 last year. The Committee are happy to note that over 32000 applications from villages all over the country have been received by the Department for the current year. Besides rewarding the villages in this regard, the State of Sikkim has surpassed all records by being the only State declared totally sanitized in spite of the difficult geographical conditions. The Committee hope and trust that the remaining States will emulate the best practices being adopted by the Nirmal Gram Puraskar winner PRIs. Besides, other States will follow Sikkim, which has shown the way to the country by being the best State in respect of sanitation. The Department have informed that monitoring of such villages by UNICEF is being done. The Committee would like that the Department should also have some sort of mechanism for regular monitoring of the awarded villages and the State of Sikkim.

## CHAPTER VII

### DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION SCENARIO IN RURAL SCHOOLS

#### A. Status of drinking water facilities in rural schools

As informed by the Department, the Seventh All India Education Survey indicate that there are 5,72,814 Primary, 1,93,947 Upper Primary and 63,576 Secondary and 22,847 Higher Secondary recognized schools in rural areas. Thus, overall there are approximately 8.5 lakh schools in the rural areas of the country.

7.2 On being questioned about the number of rural schools out of these not provided with drinking water facilities, the Department informed that there are about 84,000 rural schools without drinking water facilities, as on 1 April, 2007. The Department further informed that they are committed to provide drinking water facilities to all rural schools by March, 2008.

7.3 With regard to the targets and achievements in respect of rural schools with drinking water facilities, the Department furnished the following information:—

Year	Target	Achievement	% Achievement
2002-03	35,030	30,017	85.69
2003-04	78,554	42,155	53.66
2004-05	66,273	20,040	30.24
2005-06	1,40,000	72,464	51.76
2006-07	—	71,498	—

7.4 The Secretary, during oral evidence, stated as under:—

“I would like to mention especially for the year 2008-09, the Hon’ble Finance Minister has made an announcement of special scheme of Rs. 200 crore to improve the potability of water for school children at school level by providing for stand-alone purification systems. This is a new input.”

She further clarified that they are closely working with two projects—Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan & National Rural Health Mission to make sure there is convergence between the schemes.

7.5 On the issue of quality of drinking water supply for the students, the Committee during evidence felt that the issue merits serious attention and sincere efforts need to be taken in this regard. The information relating to treating polluted water through simple methods and other related issues need to be incorporated in the syllabus of the school students. Besides, a pertinent suggestion emerged during the discussion relating to provision of filters to schools, so that the future generation of the country are saved from the scourge of contaminated drinking water.

#### **B. Sanitation scenario in rural schools**

7.6 The Outcome Budget states that as part of TSC implementation, greater thrust has been given to ensure 100 per cent coverage in rural schools with toilet facilities by end of 2007-08. Besides, there is a goal of providing one toilet block for all rural schools and separate toilet blocks for girls by 2007-08.

7.7 On the achievement of the said objective, the Department informed that State-wise analysis of coverage of schools indicates that Sikkim, Puducherry and Haryana have achieved the targets. The States of Karnataka, Gujarat, Mizoram, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Tripura are likely to cover all schools by June 2008. The States of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jharkhand are likely to achieve this target by December 2008. The States of Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh and West Bengal are likely to attain the targets by March 2009. The States that are lagging and likely to take longer than one year are Jammu & Kashmir, Bihar, Uttarakhand, Goa, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Assam, Manipur and Punjab.

7.8 Further, the Department did not furnish any clarification on the issue of providing separate toilet blocks for girls in co-educational schools. Sanitation for exclusive girls' schools and Kasturba Gandhi Girls High Schools also surfaced during discussion with the Department and the Committee emphasized to cover this on a priority basis.

7.9 The Secretary also clarified that they are working with the Women and Child Welfare Department on the said issue, she stated as under:—

“We are also working with the Women and Child Welfare Department. Menstrual hygiene is another thing, which we have

taken up. There is a scheme called Nirmal Kishore or something for the adolescent girls. Menstrual hygiene is also being considered under the total sanitation schemes.”

7.10 The Committee have repeatedly been drawing the attention of the Department in their respective Reports to the need for coverage of all the schools in rural areas in the country under drinking water and sanitation programmes. As per the Seventh All India Education Survey, there are 8.5 lakh Government schools in rural areas in the country. As regards the status of drinking water, 84,000 rural schools are still to be provided with drinking water facility, as on 1 April, 2007. While reviewing the year-wise performance under school component of ARWSP, the Committee find that during the years 2003-04 and 2005-06, the achievement is 50 per cent. During the year 2004-05, the achievement is far below *i.e.* 30 per cent. Since 2006-07, the targets are not being fixed for coverage of schools in this regard. During the year 2007-08, out of 84,000 schools 18,000 schools could be covered. Thus 66,000 schools remained uncovered. As stated by the Department, the Government had projected to achieve full coverage by March, 2008. Even if the Government data is believed, it will take another four years to cover all the rural schools with the existing pace of coverage. The Committee further note that the ground situation in this regard may not be as projected by the Department. The Committee have repeatedly been stressing to achieve the target of full coverage of the schools within the shortest possible time. The Committee again reiterate that the country cannot wait any more in this regard. The Department have to ensure full coverage when it is a question of providing drinking water in schools. As such all the measures should be taken not only to complete the left-over targets as per the Government's data but also complete the task after reviewing the ground situation in this regard. In this regard the Committee suggest that coverage of schools should be made a component of ARWSP. The ARWSP guidelines may be suitably modified for the same.

7.11 The Committee note with satisfaction that during the year 2008-09, the Hon'ble Finance Minister has made an announcement of special scheme of Rs. 200 crore to improve the potability of water for school children at school level by providing for stand alone purification system. The Committee would like the Department to make sincere efforts for meaningful utilisation of the outlay.

7.12 The Committee note that there may be problem of slippages in the case of drinking water systems in schools also. Even when

the Department have procured an elaborate online system to have current status of coverage of slippages of habitations, efforts have not been made to include the position of slippages in case of the schools. The Committee would like the Department to maintain up-to-date information about the status of coverage of schools in rural areas and also indicate it online, so as to bring transparency in this regard. Besides, the basic reason for slippages is drying of sources. In this regard, there is an urgent need to ensure rainwater harvesting structures in the schools. The Department should take up the issue with the State Governments so as to make rainwater harvesting structures in schools mandatory. Besides, there is an urgent need to pay greater attention to have roof top rainwater harvesting structures, particularly in hilly areas. The concrete actions on the suggested lines should be taken and the Committee be informed accordingly.

7.13 With regard to the sanitation scenario in rural schools, the Committee note that a large number of States are lagging behind in this regard. As regards the roadmap for coverage of all the schools, the Committee have been informed that all the States would be able to achieve 100 per cent coverage by March, 2009 except Jammu and Kashmir, Bihar, Uttarakhand, Goa, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Assam, Manipur and Punjab. Thus, according to the Government's own projections, the total coverage would not be possible even by March 2009. Every year the Government are setting the targets for full coverage and the targets are being spilled over to the next year. The Committee have repeatedly been recommending to cover all the schools within the shortest possible time. Even if being repetitive, the Committee observe that it is a matter of shame for the country that after more than five decades of planned development, our children in the schools do not have the basic facility of toilet. The Committee again strongly recommend to take all out initiatives to ensure that all the schools in the country in rural areas have the toilet facility within the shortest possible time.

7.14 The Department did not furnish any clarification on the issue of providing separate toilet blocks for girls in co-educational schools. The Committee strongly recommend that an element of gender sensitivity should also be included in all projects of TSC by providing separate toilet blocks so as to provide privacy and dignity to girl students in rural areas. The Department should take concrete action in this regard and inform the Committee accordingly.

7.15 The Committee, further, note that the Government do not have any data with regard to drinking water and sanitation facilities



in private schools. The Committee feel that the objective of total school coverage with regard to drinking water and sanitation cannot be achieved unless the private schools also provide these facilities. In this regard, the Committee recommend that the Department should work in coordination with the Department of Elementary Education and Ministry of HRD to oversee that drinking water and sanitation facilities are ensured in private schools also in rural areas. In this regard, an effective mechanism can be to provide recognition to private schools only when the building structure has adequate facility for drinking water and separate toilets for boys and girls. Not only that, there should be a regular monitoring mechanism with regard to reviewing the certification for such recognized schools so that the drinking water and sanitation facilities are ensured on a continuous basis.

7.16 The Committee further feel that there is an urgent need to include the various issues related to contamination of water, sanitation, water conservation and menstrual hygiene for girls in the schools ensured. Besides, various issues related to contamination of water along with the cost effective techniques to treat the water contamination, particularly due to iron and saline contaminants should not only be ensured in the books as part of the curriculum but can also form part of the practicals of Science & Technology syllabus of the students, particularly when the kits for treating water in this regard are not so expensive. In this regard, the Department should take up the matter with the Ministry of HRD. The Committee strongly feel that children are the best medium to give message to community as a whole. As such all the aforesaid experiments would go a long way in finding a long lasting solution to the problem of contamination of water and sanitation. The Department should work in consultation with Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Department of Elementary Education to disseminate information in this regard.

NEW DELHI;  
16 April, 2008  

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27 Chaitra, 1930 (Saka)

KALYAN SINGH,  
Chairman,  
Standing Committee on  
Rural Development.

## APPENDIX I

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
(Standing Committee on Rural Development Branch)

### CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF STATEMENTS MADE BY MINISTER UNDER DIRECTION 73A REGARDING STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE 28TH REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT (2007-2008)

Subject of the Report : Twenty-eighth Report (14th Lok Sabha) of Standing Committee on Rural Development on Demands for Grants of Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Drinking Water Supply) for the year 2007-2008

Date of presentation : 14 May, 2007

Date of receipt of Action Taken Notes : 26 October, 2007

Date of Presentation of Action Taken Report : Report was adopted on 18 February 2008 by the Committee and is being presented to the House in the current Session.

Date of Minister's Statement : 6 December, 2007

The Twenty-eighth Report of the Standing Committee on Rural Development on Demands for Grants (2007-08) was presented to Parliament on 14 May, 2007. As per Direction 73A of the Direction by the Speaker, the Hon'ble Minister of Rural Development was supposed to make a statement in Lok Sabha on the status of implementation of each of the recommendation contained in the Twenty eighth Report of the Committee. In view of the above, the Minister's statement on Twenty-eighth Report became due on 14 November, 2007.

The Hon'ble Minister made the statement in the Lok Sabha on 6 December, 2007.

Sl.No.	Name of Committee	Ministry/ Department	Total No. of Recs.	Total No. of Recs.	No. of Recommendation Implemented	No. of Recs. Under process	No. of Recommendation not implemented	No. of Recs. Yet to be implemented
1.	Committee on Rural Development	Department of Drinking Water Supply	39	23	9*	14**	16***	30 [14+16]

\*All under Accepted category.

\*\*All under Accepted category.

\*\*\*All under Not Accepted category.

**APPENDIX II**

**FINANCIAL PROGRESS UNDER RURAL WATER SUPPLY PROGRAMME DURING 2006-2007 (STATES/UTs)**

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	State/UT	ARWSP					State Share				
		Opening Balance	Allocation	Release	Total funds Availability	Exp. Reported Amount	Exp. Reported in %	Provision	Exp. Reported Amount	Exp. Reported In %	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9044.29	24488.66	33732.34	42776.63	31113.37	72.73	39393.85	22710.25	57.65	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	156.38	10870.70	13883.01	14039.39	10386.56	73.98	7628.04	7628.04	100.00	
3.	Assam	7282.01	22798.91	15505.70	22787.71	21664.90	95.07	7485.00	4796.00	64.07	
4.	Bihar	12943.37	29140.44	15799.08	28742.45	17196.22	59.83	20427.85	12200.00	59.72	
5.	Chhattisgarh	2984.54	8994.22	7652.50	10637.04	7566.65	71.13	11415.00	11194.00	98.06	
6.	Goa	86.37	295.28	139.19	225.56	161.14	71.44	2690.15	2690.15	100.00	
7.	Gujarat	118.53	19571.36	20763.11	20881.64	17962.22	86.02	28754.00	22305.60	77.57	
8.	Haryana	1581.26	7136.97	6681.95	8263.21	6451.84	78.08	23440.13	23440.13	100.00	
9.	Himachal Pradesh	215.01	9851.79	16880.03	17095.04	15929.00	93.18	18867.68	18867.68	100.00	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	8735.47	29321.92	23664.44	32399.91	27092.31	83.62	23326.00	9550.00	40.94
11.	Jharkhand	3789.74	10488.50	6004.21	9793.95	4356.38	44.48	5200.00	2909.86	55.96
12.	Karnataka	930.53	32433.57	38786.11	39716.64	24762.62	62.35	19829.01	19829.01	100.00
13.	Kerala	1255.95	6680.17	7413.11	8669.06	7516.49	86.70	14505.97	14505.97	100.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	823.20	27842.04	22784.81	23608.01	18117.73	76.74	16628.95	14559.54	87.56
15.	Maharashtra	1625.00	48833.14	40133.52	41758.52	33156.60	79.40	58118.34	36764.44	63.26
16.	Manipur	2235.77	3399.53	1938.30	4174.07	2694.82	64.56	3497.00	3347.04	95.71
17.	Meghalaya	727.09	4314.20	5211.59	5938.68	4674.67	78.72	3620.00	3258.00	90.00
18.	Mizoram	110.40	3085.39	4450.87	4561.27	3552.48	77.88	3441.00	2400.41	69.76
19.	Nagaland	1291.58	3160.74	3110.78	4402.36	4018.71	91.29	965.72	965.72	100.00
20.	Orissa	6397.75	20387.95	11916.72	18314.47	12185.23	66.53	9988.98	5314.11	53.20
21.	Punjab	527.61	7000.63	5371.63	5899.24	2790.10	47.30	18369.23	18369.23	100.00
22.	Rajasthan	21306.41	62679.67	54909.86	76216.27	72190.18	94.72	53729.87	53289.24	99.18
23.	Sikkim	162.12	1304.73	1721.01	1883.13	1686.01	89.53	925.20	925.20	100.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
24.	Tamil Nadu	3615.10	13774.98	13595.74	17210.84	17405.99	101.13	41100.00	40786.00	99.24
25.	Tripura	474.74	4317.35	5122.41	5597.15	4387.05	78.38	3743.01	3743.01	100.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	13894.48	35746.54	40040.37	53934.85	35180.21	65.23	41073.27	25992.21	63.28
27.	Uttarakhand	1299.42	8656.58	9193.36	10492.78	6984.71	66.57	21030.09	21030.09	100.00
28.	West Bengal	1571.47	32309.00	28808.21	30379.68	22699.93	74.72	13950.37	13950.37	100.00
29.	A&N Islands	3550.46	44.21	3.21	3553.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
30.	D&N Haveli	0.45	12.82	3.33	3.78	0.00	0.00	153.84	153.84	100.00
31.	Daman & Diu	0.00	19.75	2.80	2.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
32.	Lakshadweep	0.00	15.59	2.69	2.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
33.	Puducherry	100.00	62.06	3.61	103.61	0.00	0.00	1748.00	1748.00	100.00
34.	Delhi	0.00	47.06	7.83	7.83	0.00		0.00	0.00	
35.	Chandigarh	0.00	11.58	3.01	3.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
	Total	108836.50	489098.00	455240.44	564076.94	433884.11	76.92	515045.55	419223.14	81.40

## APPENDIX III

FINANCIAL PROGRESS UNDER RURAL WATER SUPPLY PROGRAMME DURING 2006-2007 (STATES/UTS)  
(Upto 31.12.2007)

Sl.No.	State/UT	ARWSP						State Share		
		Opening Balance	Allocation	Release	Total funds Availability	Exp. Reported Amount	Exp. Reported in %	Provision	Exp. Reported Amount	Exp. Reported In %
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8616.53	34487.78	28264.98	36881.51	35115.00	95.21	36358.50	21572.82	59.33
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3486.96	11463.73	8598.95	12085.91	6227.45	51.53	15108.57	2664.00	17.63
3.	Assam	639.48	30713.99	13177.47	13816.95	11793.88	85.36	7385.00	3562.86	48.24
4.	Bihar	10656.65	37826.57	16590.51	27247.16	9192.39	33.74	21427.85	7809.36	36.44
5.	Chhattisgarh	2075.21	11562.66	8485.25	10560.46	6645.45	62.93	14208.00	8220.80	57.86
6.	Goa	52.23	344.93	172.06	224.29	94.56	42.16	1506.21	1320.62	87.68
7.	Gujarat	0.00	2790.14	2228.84	2228.84	13627.67	61.31	81086.68	54684.85	67.44
8.	Haryana	1612.87	10004.43	8586.00	10198.87	6266.17	61.44	42300.00	22486.59	53.16

(Rs. in lakh)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9.	Himachal Pradesh	203.19	11893.27	12078.50	12281.69	5653.57	46.03	10979.38	5264.36	47.95
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	4957.83	33147.73	16581.07	21538.90	14322.76	66.50	32700.00	5249.70	16.05
11.	Jharkhand	3147.96	14261.26	5971.04	9119.00	2963.55	32.50	9181.00	2902.07	31.61
12.	Karnataka	675.88	43050.67	29156.39	29832.27	19863.21	66.58	50623.00	13672.06	27.01
13.	Kerala	0.00	8788.72	8433.27	8433.27	4688.84	55.60	45825.00	17365.02	37.89
14.	Madhya Pradesh	3758.36	33220.88	24135.27	27893.63	15962.90	57.23	26519.64	12822.14	48.35
15.	Maharashtra	7254.13	50479.17	41269.09	48523.22	24612.37	50.72	84531.00	27094.30	32.05
16.	Manipur	1239.01	3887.60	3342.82	4581.83	1731.85	37.80	3000.00	2095.64	69.85
17.	Meghalaya	1227.89	4538.57	3683.45	4911.34	3698.59	75.31	3800.00	3299.17	86.82
18.	Mizoram	925.69	3212.34	2815.79	3741.48	2804.99	74.97	2294.00	1092.72	47.63
19.	Nagaland	350.27	3325.76	1706.92	2057.19	2014.35	97.92	1636.00	1206.66	73.76
20.	Orissa	4050.63	27368.32	12860.57	16911.20	13277.46	78.51	26885.00	6108.44	22.72
21.	Punjab	1835.51	8063.71	3027.21	4862.72	2199.50	45.23	20000.00	6906.11	34.53
22.	Rajasthan	1294.80	85577.49	85327.93	86622.73	85912.64	99.18	59459.20	31323.92	52.68
23.	Sikkim	196.49	1358.58	1067.47	1263.96	1074.16	84.98	1250.00	682.20	54.58



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
24.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	2091.63	20081.73	20081.73	15849.81	78.93	52000.00	39459.27	75.88
25.	Tripura	1070.63	5246.89	3424.70	4495.33	3176.34	70.66	3976.40	2021.00	50.82
26.	Uttar Pradesh	9712.51	47773.66	35293.56	45006.07	28323.08	62.93	46200.00	26142.39	56.59
27.	Uttarakhand	2644.07	9260.01	4716.99	7361.06	3515.29	47.76	22528.00	10906.11	48.41
28.	West Bengal	4235.14	36592.18	30481.03	34716.17	9730.75	28.03	29597.00	3751.33	12.67
29.	A&N Islands	3550.46	18.15	0.00	3550.46	472.10	13.30	0.00	0.00	0.00
30.	D&N Haveli	0.45	45.96	1.78	2.23	0.00	0.00	300.00	128.53	42.84
31.	Daman & Diu	0.00	7.85	0.63	0.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
32.	Lakshadweep	0.00	23.97	11.85	11.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
33.	Puducherry	100.00	95.41	0.39	100.39	0.00	0.00	688.67	349.74	50.78
34.	Delhi	0.00	37.68	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Chandigarh	0.00	7.45	0.41	0.41	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total	79570.83	616669.14	451573.92	531144.75	350810.68	66.05	753353.10	342164.78	45.42

#### APPENDIX IV

#### RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL DRINKING WATER MISSION (RGNDWM)

#### MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT/DEPARTMENT OF DRINKING WATER SUPPLY PROGRAMME & STATE-WISE UNSPENT BALANCE AS ON 31.12.2007

(Amount Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	ARWSP	CRSP	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	17,66.51	65,62.48	83,28.99
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	58,58.46	2,57.75	61,16.21
3.	Assam	20,23.07	40,03.28	60,26.35
4.	Bihar	1,80,54.77	1,08,06.89	2,88,61.66
5.	Chhattisgarh	39,15.01	24,27.99	63,43.00
6.	Goa	1,29.73	29.64	1,59.37
7.	Gujarat	86,01.17	26,09.86	1,12,11.03
8.	Haryana	39,32.70	22,19.99	61,52.69
9.	Himachal Pradesh	66,28.12	11,57.37	77,85.69
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	72,16.14	13,46.77	85,62.49
11.	Jharkhand	61,55.14	43,60.11	1,05,15.56
12.	Karnataka	99,69.06	23,13.48	1,22,82.54
13.	Kerala	37,44.43	13,26.74	50,71.17
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1,19,30.73	84,74.54	2,04,05.27
15.	Maharashtra	2,39,10.85	49,78.13	2,88,88.98
16.	Manipur	28,49.98	8,57.27	37,07.25
17.	Meghalaya	12,12.75	5,35.41	17,48.16

1	2	3	4	5
18.	Mizoram	9,36.49	2,68.71	12,05.20
19.	Nagaland	42.84	1,78.84	2,21.68
20.	Orissa	36,33.74	89,09.43	1,25,43.17
21.	Punjab	26,63.22	937.1	36,00.32
22.	Rajasthan	7,10.09	32,01.75	39,11.84
23.	Sikkim	1,89.80	2,25.41	4,15.21
24.	Tamil Nadu	42,31.92	62,16.14	1,04,48.06
25.	Tripura	13,18.99	5,39.45	18,58.44
26.	Uttar Pradesh	1,66,82.99	1,28,31.81	2,95,14.80
27.	Uttarakhand	38,45.77	7,96.51	46,42.28
28.	West Bengal	2,49,85.42	49,47.44	2,99,32.86
29.	A&N Islands	30,78.28	0.00	30,78.28
30.	D&N Haveli	2.23	1.48	3.71
31.	Daman and Diu	0.63	0.00	0.63
32.	Lakshadweep	11.85	0.00	11.85
33.	Puducherry	1,033.49	34.75	1,35.14
34.	Delhi	0	0.00	0
35.	Chandigarh	0.41	0.00	0.41
	Total	18,03,34.00	9,33,56.52	27,36,90.52

**APPENDIX V**

STATE-WISE STATUS OF HABITATIONS AS ON 1.4.2007

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Status as on 1.4.2007			
		NC	PC	FC	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,935	23,613	35,948	61,496
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1,809	1,607	1,799	5,215
3.	Assam	26,707	14,566	34,461	75,734
4.	Bihar	18,452	36,813	49,940	1,05,205
5.	Chhattisgarh	3,643	1,848	65,329	70,820
6.	Goa	0	0	331	331
7.	Gujarat	1,263	6,286	27,035	34,584
8.	Haryana	50	1,806	4,672	6,528
9.	Himachal Pradesh	4,613	5,942	17,660	28,215
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	1,887	3,564	6,942	12,393
11.	Jharkhand	12,746	1,923	1,05,341	1,20,010
12.	Karnataka	22	9,704	32,457	42,183
13.	Kerala	291	4,916	6,958	12,165
14.	Madhya Pradesh	6,411	11,326	1,09,299	1,27,036
15.	Maharashtra	1,826	30,171	45,469	77,466
16.	Manipur	NA	NA	NA	NA
17.	Meghalaya	1,389	1,826	6,111	9,326
18.	Mizoram	140	57	569	1,377
19.	Nagaland	0	856	521	1,377
20.	Orissa	11,759	12,049	1,09,889	1,33,697
21.	Punjab	3,151	3,662	6,890	13,703

1	2	3	4	5	6
22.	Rajasthan	53,748	0	54,2020	1,07,768
23.	Sikkim	0	675	1,823	2,498
24.	Tamil Nadu	6,519	25,250	50,018	81,787
25.	Tripura	800	2,212	4,928	7,940
26.	Uttar Pradesh	974	1,722	2,57,385	2,60,081
27.	Uttarakhand	382	5,077	12,852	18,311
28.	West Bengal	4,851	13,137	72,360	90,348
29.	A&N Islands	NA	NA	NA	NA
30.	D&N Haveli	0	0	70	70
31.	Daman and Diu	0	0	21	21
32.	Delhi	NA	NA	NA	NA
33.	Lakshadweep	0	7	2	9
34.	Puducherry	0	0	248	248
35.	Chandigarh	0	0	18	18
Total		1,65,368	2,20,615	11,21,366	15,07,349

**APPENDIX VI**  
**STATE-WISE WATER QUALITY-AFFECTED HABITATIONS AS ON 1.4.2006**

State/UT	Number of habitations affected by							
	Fluoride	Salinity	Iron	Arsenic	Nitrate	Multiple	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Andhra Pradesh	1,497	1,058	0	0	0	0	2,555	
Bihar	383	0	21,540	794	2,000	0	24,717	
Chhattisgarh	17	61	4,932	11	0	0	5,021	
Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Gujarat	2,563	1,528	0	0	838	0	4,929	
Haryana	119	72	0	0	0	145	336	
Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Jharkhand	1,159	0	129	18	1	41	1,348	
Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	47	0	0	67	114	
Karnataka	5,000	0	6,633	0	4,077	4,460	20,170	
Kerala	34	86	564	0	78	105	867	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Madhya Pradesh	3,282	279	105	0	33	153	3,852
Maharashtra	2748	1,424	2,491	0	4,552	0	11,215
Orissa	794	651	26,136	0	0	435	28,016
Punjab	588	1,289	164	0	0	0	2,041
Rajasthan	6,992	4,428	131	0	7,693	12,639	31,883
Tamil Nadu	452	61	68	0	104	735	1,420
Uttarakhand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Uttar Pradesh	2,077	612	2,375	0	11	1,302	6,377
West Bengal	665	811	11,883	5,408	0	0	18,767
A&N Islands	0	0	16	0	0	10	26
D&N Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Delhi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Puducherry	0	65	17	0	0	0	82
Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,370</b>	<b>12,425</b>	<b>77,231</b>	<b>6,231</b>	<b>19,387</b>	<b>20,092</b>	<b>1,63,736</b>
NE States							
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	353	0	0	213	566
Assam	660	0	23,841	730	0	2,950	28,181
Manipur	0	0	37	0	0	0	37
Meghalaya	0	0	124	0	0	0	124
Mizoram	0	0	26	0	0	0	26
Nagaland	0	0	136	0	0	0	136
Sikkim	0	0	76	0	0	0	76
Tripura	0	0	2,653	106	0	172	2,931
<b>Total</b>	<b>660</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27,246</b>	<b>836</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,335</b>	<b>32,077</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>29,030</b>	<b>12,425</b>	<b>1,04,447</b>	<b>7,067</b>	<b>19,387</b>	<b>23,427</b>	<b>1,95,813</b>



## APPENDIX VII

TARGET AND COVERAGE OF HABITATIONS AND RURAL SCHOOLS UNDER RURAL  
WATER SUPPLY PROGRAMME DURING 2007-2008

(Upto 31.01.2007)

Sl.No.	State/UT	Month Code	Target										Coverage		
			Uncovered NC	Habitations PC	Total	Shipped back	Quality- Affected	Total	Uncovered habitations NC	PC	Total	Shipped back	Quality- Affected	Total	Schools
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1.	Andhra Pradesh*	11	0	0	0	8992	918	9910			0	3513	1937	5450	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	12	8	95	103	1376	105	1584	1	60	61	66	566	693	109
3.	Assam	12	41	2303	2344	5318	5018	12680		1316	1316	116	5568	7000	2278
4.	Bihar*	11	0	0	0	16695	4268	20963			0	419	5614	6033	255
5.	Chhattisgarh*	9	0	0	0	2989	725	3714			0	2324	810	3134	235
6.	Goa	9	0	0	0	0	0	0		1	1	0	0	1	
7.	Gujarat*	12	0	0	0	1269	1870	3139			0	966	2090	3056	846
8.	Haryana*	11	0	0	0	714	109	823			0	402	50	452	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9.	Himachal Pradesh	12	0	1941	1941	3103	0	5044		634	634	2250	0	2884	0
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	11	208	800	1008	1024	26	2058	67	194	261	53	0	314	242
11.	Jharkhand*	11	0	0	0	5058	421	5479			0	669	361	1030	
12.	Karnataka	11	0	800	800	0	5572	6372		985	985	873	2345	4203	2252
13.	Kerala	11	0	2400	2400	0	145	2545		655	655	0	264	919	139
14.	Madhya Pradesh*	11	0	0	0	9004	1103	10107			0	5733	3668	9401	1491
15.	Maharashtra	12	103	7000	7103	3600	4183	14886		940	940	748	810	2498	0
16.	Manipur*	12	0	0	0	0	3	3			0	80	37	117	
17.	Meghalaya	11	2	67	69	1338	14	1421	1	6	7	278	89	374	0
18.	Mizoram	12	0	0	0	85	4	89		0	0	42	26	68	
19.	Nagaland	11	0	300	300	68	13	381	6	10	16	14	132	162	8
20.	Orissa*	12	0	0	0	1216	4361	5577			0	5710	5107	10817	600
21.	Punjab	11	8	0	8	1611	816	2435	8	36	44	149	320	513	53
22.	Rajasthan	12	677	0	677	9230	12117	22024	92		92	1533	8444	10069	2642
23.	Sikkim*	12	0	0	0	246	8	254			0	209	76	285	14

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
24.	Tamil Nadu*	12	0	0	0	12149	389	12538			0	8529	1112	9641	0
25.	Tripura*	12	0	0	0	149	440	589			0	0	1454	1454	
26.	Uttar Pradesh*	12	0	0	0	1978	1609	3587			0	423	1858	2281	
27.	Uttarakhand	11	16	102	118	2376	0	2494	0	9	9	729	0	738	78
28.	West Bengal*	9	0	0	0	412	4349	4761			0	559	3092	3651	27
29.	A&N Islands	NR	0	0	0	0	6	6			—	—	—	—	—
30.	Dadra Nagar Haveli	9	0	8	8	0	0	8	8	8	16	0	0	16	
31.	Daman and Diu*	NR	0	0	0	0	0	0			—	—	—	—	—
32.	Delhi*	NR	0	0	0	0	0	0			—	—	—	—	—
33.	Lakshadweep	NR	0	7	7	0	0	7			—	—	—	—	—
34.	Puducherry	8	0	0	0	0	21	21	1	1	1	1	3	4	
35.	Chandigarh*	NR	0	0	0	0	0	0			—	—	—	—	—
	Total	1063	15823	16886	90000	48613	1,55,499	183	4855	5038	36387	45833	87258	11469	

\*There was no uncovered of CAP'99 in these States/UTs as on 1.4.2007.

## APPENDIX VIII

### COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT (2007-2008)

#### MINUTES OF THE ELEVENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY, THE 27 MARCH, 2008

The Committee sat from 1100 hrs. to 1330 hrs. in Committee Room 'D', Ground Floor Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

#### PRESENT

Shri Kalyan Singh—*Chairman*

#### MEMBERS

#### *Lok Sabha*

2. Shri Mani Charenamei
3. Shri Sandeep Dikshit
4. Shri D. Narbula
5. Shri A.F.G. Osmani
6. Shrimati Jyotirmoyee Sikdar
7. Shri Sita Ram Singh
8. Shri Bagun Sumbrui
9. Shri Beni Prasad Verma

#### *Rajya Sabha*

10. Shri Balihari Babu
11. Shri Jayantilal Barot
12. Kumari Nirmala Deshpande
13. Shri Pyarelal Khandelwal
14. Dr. Chandan Mitra
15. Dr. Ram Prakash
16. Ms. Sushila Tiriya

#### SECRETARIAT

1. Shri S.K. Sharma — *Additional Secretary*
2. Shri P.K. Grover — *Joint Secretary*
3. Shrimati Veena Sharma — *Director*
4. Shri A.K. Shah — *Deputy Secretary-II*
5. Shri Hoti Lal — *Deputy Secretary-II*

**Representatives of the Department of Drinking Water Supply  
(Ministry of Rural Development)**

1. Shrimati Shantha Sheela Nair, Secretary
2. Shri Atul Chaturvedi, Special Secretary & FA
3. Shri A. Bhattacharya, Joint Secretary
4. Shri R.M. Deshpande, Additional Adviser
5. Shri Bharat Lal, Director (RWS)
6. Shri Ravi Kant Sinha, Director (CRSP)
7. Shri Vijay Mittal, Director
8. Shri Anthony Lanzuela, CCA

2. At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the members to the sitting of the Committee convened for taking oral evidence of the representatives of Department of Drinking Water Supply (Ministry of Rural Development) on Demands for Grants (2008-2009).

*[The representatives of the Department of Drinking Water Supply (Ministry of Rural Development) were then called in.]*

3. The Committee then took oral evidence of the representatives of the Department of Drinking Water Supply (Ministry of Rural Development) on Demands for Grants (2008-2009). The Secretary, Department of Drinking Water Supply, gave a brief overview of the performance of the Department during the previous year *i.e.* 2007-08 with regard to the allocation *vis-a-vis* utilization of the outlay. Thereafter, the performance of two major Centrally Sponsored Schemes of the Department *viz.* Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) and Central Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP) [restructured as Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC)] was discussed and issues like online habitation-wise coverage for the purpose of monitoring, conjunctive use of surface and ground water for the purpose of availability of water, the Department's strategy to improve the drinking water availability and sanitation scenario in the country to achieve the Bharat Nirman targets and strategy during the Eleventh Plan were also discussed.

4. The members expressed their concern on the issues of poor quality of water, need for awareness about Total Sanitation Campaign, indiscriminate use of ground water etc. and offered valuable suggestions regarding training of school/college students and volunteers of National Service Scheme (NSS) in testing water quality, raising awareness about

TSC programme among the masses and the need for bringing out model legislation for monitoring and control of the ground water etc.

5. The witnesses replied to the queries raised by the Chairman and members. The Secretary was requested to furnish written information with regard to the queries to which replies were not readily available during the sitting.

6. A verbatim record of the proceeding has been kept.

*The Committee then adjourned.*

## APPENDIX IX

COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT (2007-2008)

MINUTES OF THE FOURTEENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE  
HELD ON THURSDAY, THE 10 APRIL, 2008

The Committee sat from 1400 hrs. to 1530 hrs. in Committee Room  
'D', Ground Floor, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

### PRESENT

Shri Kalyan Singh—*Chairman*

### MEMBERS

#### *Lok Sabha*

2. Shri Mani Charenamei
3. Shri V. Kishore Chandra S. Deo
4. Shri Sandeep Dikshit
5. Shri Hannan Mollah
6. Shri D. Narbula
7. Shri A.F.G. Osmani
8. Adv. Renge Patil Tukaram Ganpatrao
9. Shrimati Jyotirmoyee Sikdar
10. Shri Bagun Sumbrui
11. Shri Tarit Baran Topdar
12. Shri Chandramani Tripathi
13. Shri Beni Prasad Verma

#### *Rajya Sabha*

14. Shri Balihari Babu
15. Kumari Nirmala Deshpande
16. Shri Pyarelal Khandelwal
17. Dr. Chandan Mitra
18. Shri P.R. Rajan

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri S.K. Sharma — *Additional Secretary*
2. Shri P.K. Grover — *Joint Secretary*
3. Shrimati Sudesh Luthra — *Director*
4. Shri A.K. Shah — *Deputy Secretary-II*
5. Shri Hoti Lal — *Deputy Secretary-II*

2. At the outset, the Hon'ble Chairman welcomed the members to the sitting of the Committee. The Committee then considered and adopted the draft Report on Demands for Grants (2008-09) of the Department of Drinking Water Supply (Ministry of Rural Development) with a slight modification.

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3. The Committee then authorized the Chairman to finalise the aforesaid draft Reports on the basis of factual verification from the concerned Ministry and present the same to both the Houses of Parliament.

*The Committee then adjourned.*

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\*\*\*\*\*Relevant portions of the minutes not related to the subject have been kept separately.



## APPENDIX X

### STATEMENT OF RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS

Sl.No.	Para No.	Recommendations/Observations
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1.	3.13	<p>The Committee find from the analysis of the data furnished by the Department that there has been a shortfall between the amount proposed to the Planning Commission and the actual amount provided to the Department during each year of the Tenth Plan, Eleventh Plan as a whole and the first two years of Eleventh Plan i.e. the years 2007-08 and 2008-09. For the Eleventh Plan, there is a huge shortfall of about Rs.15,500 crore between the proposed allocation and the amount agreed to by the Planning Commission. The Committee are surprised with the statement of the Department that the amount has been considerably increasing over the years in absolute terms. It seems that the Department are content with the outlay provided under ARWSP even when there is considerable shortfall in the agreed to outlay during each of the year as compared to the outlay proposed by the Department thereunder. The Committee have repeatedly been emphasizing for providing adequate outlay for drinking water schemes in their earlier Reports. While reiterating their stand in this regard, the Committee emphasize that the Department should take up the matter with the Ministry of Finance/ Planning Commission for getting adequate allocation.</p>
2.	3.14	<p>The Committee find that a few projects have been taken up with the external</p>

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assistance in the States of Kerala, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Uttarakhand and Punjab. The Committee would like that similar initiative should be taken in the other States. Besides, as stated in the para above, the Government should provide adequate Government funding for the drinking water schemes through enhanced budgetary support from their own resources and make sincere efforts to fulfil their mandate of providing safe and adequate drinking water which is central to the livelihood system of rural people.

3. 3.15 Further, during the oral evidence, the Secretary pointed out that some of the States face difficulties in providing 50 percent matching share due to the fund constraints. The Committee would like the Department to undertake a detailed and comprehensive exercise to identify such States, as are facing resource crunch in consultation and collaboration with Ministry of Finance as well as the Planning Commission particularly, when the important question of providing drinking water to rural masses is involved. After having the detailed report, the Department should find out the mechanism to assist some of the specific concerns of special category of States, which do not have the capacity to pay 50 per cent matching share under the programme. The Union Government should take the desired action in this regard.
4. 3.16 The Committee find that a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Gouri Shankar Ghose was appointed to study the activities of the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission, which was set up

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		<p>twenty years back, to suggest how the Mission could be restructured to meet the challenges of the future. The aforesaid Committee have already submitted the report and the Government are examining it. The Committee recommend that the Department should take earnest action to restructure the mission based on the recommendations made by the aforesaid Committee so as to enable it to face the challenges of sustainability and quality in the drinking water sector.</p>
5.	3.22	<p>The Committee note that not only the Department are getting lesser allocation than the outlay proposed to Planning Commission, whatever amount is allocated at BE stage is further reduced at RE stage. During the year 2006-07, the outlay of Rs.5,200 crore provided at BE stage was reduced to Rs. 4,560 crore at RE stage. Then during the year 2007-08, the BE of Rs. 6,500 crore was reduced to Rs. 6,400 crore. The releases upto 29 February 2008 were to the tune of Rs. 5,386 crore. The Committee express serious concern over the reduction of outlay at RE stage particularly when the scheme is for providing drinking water to rural masses. The Committee strongly recommend to take up the matter with the Planning Commission so that whatever allocation is made at BE stage is not reduced at the RE stage. The Department on their part should make all efforts to ensure cent percent utilization of the resources.</p>
6.	3.23	<p>The Committee find from the data provided by the Department in the Outcome Budget that during the year 2006-07, Rs. 1,088.36 crore were lying as opening balances with</p>

various State Governments. As regards the State-wise position, the under spending was more in Jharkhand where the expenditure was only 44.48 per cent followed by Punjab where 47.30 per cent of funds were lying unspent. Worst is the position in A&N Islands, Dadar and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu, Lakshadweep, Puducherry, Delhi and Chandigarh, where the expenditure reported is nil against the indicated releases. Further the expenditure reported under Union Government share is 76.19 per cent whereas the expenditure reported under State share is 81.40 per cent during 2006-07. During the year 2007-08, Rs. 1,803 crore have been stated to be the unspent balances in various States. The maximum unspent balances are with West Bengal *i.e.* Rs. 2,49,85.42 lakh, Maharashtra Rs. 2,39,10.85 lakh, Bihar Rs. 1,80,54.77 lakh, Uttar Pradesh Rs. 1,66,82.99 lakh and Madhya Pradesh Rs. 1,19,30.73 lakh. The Committee have repeatedly been expressing concern over the huge opening balances lying with the State Governments. In spite of that, the trend of opening balances persists during each year. The Committee strongly recommend to analyze the reasons in the States where the under-spending is a recurrent feature. The Department should obtain Reports from all the States regarding non utilisation of funds and inform the Committee accordingly. The Committee would like the Department to indicate the specific reasons for nil utilization of outlay in some of the States/UTs.

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3.24

The Committee had earlier recommended (refer para 4.12 of 28th Report) to revise the format of MPRs so as to include a component wherein States furnish specific

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reasons for non-utilisation of resources. Such a mechanism will not only make the States responsible but would also help the Union as well as the State Governments to take timely remedial measures. The Committee while reiterating the earlier recommendation would like that the desired action on the suggested lines should be taken and the Committee apprised accordingly.

8. 4.7 The Committee appreciate that after the continuous pursuance of the issue with regard to finding out the ground reality in respect of coverage of habitations, the results of habitations survey 2003 could be made available and all the States have started entering the data online. The data made available by the survey was updated as on 1 April, 2007 and now the efforts are being made to update it further upto 1 April, 2008. The Secretary has further assured that during the year 2008-09, the data will be updated on a continuous basis. While complimenting the Department on the serious efforts made in this regard, the Committee would like that the efforts should be continued so that there is transparency with regard to the actual situation in respect of availability of drinking water in rural areas. The availability of updated baseline data would certainly help the country in future planning and making projections.
9. 4.8 The Committee further find that certain targets were fixed for uncovered and slipped back habitations during the Bharat Nirman period. The analysis of the achievements made in this regard indicates that during the first three years of Bharat

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Nirman period only 57 per cent of the targets could be achieved under the category of uncovered habitations while 64 per cent of the targets could be achieved under slipped back habitations. The Committee have doubts about achieving the remaining targets with the slow pace of implementation of Bharat Nirman particularly when the year 2008-09 is the last year of the programme. The Committee would like the Department to work out a strategy urgently to achieve the said targets within the stipulated time frame. The Committee may also be apprised of the same.

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4.9

The Committee note that before 2003 survey the information was being maintained with regard to not covered habitations and partially covered habitations. Not covered habitations were such habitations, which were mainly in the difficult geographical areas. After compilation of the data based on 2003 survey, it seems that slipped back habitations have been included in the not covered and partially covered habitations. 1,45,518 not covered and 1,94,067 partially covered habitations have been indicated as per the latest survey. There is no slipped back category as per the habitation survey results. However, during the Bharat Nirman period, there is a category of slipped back habitations. This disparity in categorization creates utter confusion with regard to the status of coverage of partially covered and not covered habitations. The Committee would like the Department to clarify the position in this regard. Besides, the Committee strongly recommend that the data for the targets and achievements with regard to slipped back category should be

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depicted separately and not clubbed with the data relating to not covered and partially covered habitations, so as to have a fair idea about the not covered and partially covered habitations. Besides, the Committee feel that in the latest updated data, it is difficult to find out as to how many not covered habitations are in difficult terrains where the State Governments find it difficult to cover those habitations. The Department should clarify the position in this regard. The Committee desire that the position should be made clear in the data in order to facilitate effective monitoring and implementation.

11. 4.10 Further, the Committee note with dismay that physical performance under ARWSP of uncovered habitations is not up to the mark. The under-achievement of targets for 2006-07 has been about 30 per cent and for 2007-08, it is about 70 per cent. Though the Department are optimistic about achieving the targets, the ground reality in this regard suggests otherwise. The Committee would like the Department to shun their complacent approach and undertake concrete and strict measures to ensure achievement of the targets by the States. The Committee may be apprised of the concrete action taken in this regard.
12. 5.8 It is needless to point out that contaminated harmful sources of water in rural areas in the country may cause a severe crisis and trap the people in vicious cycle of poverty and disease. The Committee would emphasize that all the efforts made with regard to improving the coverage status and bringing about sustainability of sources and the systems become meaningless in the

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absence of clean and safe drinking water. The Government should launch a nationwide awareness programme about the perils of contaminated water on the model of AIDS, Polio campaigns etc. The Department may provide inputs for the said campaign for disseminating information and sensitizing the people on the said aspect. The programme should aim at promoting linkages between water, sanitation, hygiene, health and environment policies through involvement of all stakeholders *viz.* policy makers, civil society, local authorities, NGOs and individuals in the field.

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5.9

Besides creating awareness, the problem of contaminated water which has emerged as a serious threat to the livelihood systems of rural poor, itself needs to be tackled on a priority basis. Besides continuing the initiatives being taken with regard to the treatment of contaminated water, there is an urgent need to focus on preventive measures to check water contamination. In this regard, the Committee would like to emphasize the urgent need for legislative measures to check the tendency of industries to dump the effluents back into the ground without treating, which is contaminating the ground water and is a serious threat to the agriculture and environment. The Secretary, during the course of oral evidence, has informed that the Department are working on a draft Model Legislation, in order to address the aforesaid issue. The Committee strongly recommend that the Model Legislation should be drafted in consultation with the experts, policy makers, all the related Ministries, State Governments and all the



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		stakeholders expeditiously. The proposed legislation should provide for punitive measures against the offence of polluting drinking water sources.
14.	5.10	Further, the Committee are perturbed to note the dismal performance of quality-affected habitations under the Bharat Nirman programme, wherein all quality-affected habitations were to be covered by 2008-09. However, the performance of quality-affected habitations indicate only about 50 per cent achievement so far with only one year of the Bharat Nirman Programme remaining. The Committee take strong exception on the underachievement of targets in such a critical area. The Committee desire that the Department should take all measures to ensure that all the remaining quality affected habitations are addressed on a priority basis by chalking out an immediate Action Plan in this regard.
15.	5.11	As discussed during the oral evidence of the Department, a large number of grass root level workers still need to be trained under the NRDWQM and SP programme for testing water quality in village Panchayats. The Committee feel that towards this end, the Department should work in a mission mode and take all the necessary steps to complete the training within a stipulated time frame. Further, the programme may be expanded to include students from schools, colleges, NSS, NCC Cadets and other youth organizations where the same training for testing water quality at local level and improving its quality by using simple low cost techniques for treating contaminated water may be

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		<p>imparted. This may help to find a practical and a lasting solution to the problem of contaminated water according to the Committee. Besides, the services of NGOs/ VOs having expertise in the field may also be taken by the Department. The Committee would like the Department to take the necessary action in this direction and revise the guidelines accordingly.</p>
15.	5.12	<p>While examining DFG of the year 2007-08, the Committee had recommended that the Union Government should urge upon the States to set up rural local marts with the aid of district authorities where simple and low cost techniques for treating contaminated water may be marketed. The Committee reiterate their suggestion and urge them to take concrete action on the suggested lines. The Committee feel that the dangers of potentially harmful sources of water are immense and eminent and the Department need to undertake broad interventions through targeted action for better and dignified living conditions for rural populace and for promoting environment sustainability.</p>
16.	5.23	<p>The Committee would like to stress that since UN has prioritized access to drinking water as one of its Millennium Development Goals, the issue of sustainability of sources and the Systems has assumed prime significance. Over the years the Committee have been stressing upon the Government to evolve a comprehensive strategy in this regard. The Committee are happy to note that the Department are undertaking measures to promote sustainability through holding of seminars, workshops, conference and</p>

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raising awareness through the same. The Committee, however, maintain, that while the Department should continue with such efforts, more action needs to be taken on the ground to improve water resources management to bring about sustainability of sources and systems.

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5.24

The model legislation for control on over extraction of ground water, if and when implemented in letter and spirit by all the States can go a long way in bringing about sustainability of sources as depletion of ground water table due to excessive and uncontrolled extraction of the water is the main cause for the sources going dry. In this regard, the Committee would draw attention to their earlier recommendation (refer para 5.11 of the 28th Report) and urge upon the Department to ensure that the said legislation is put in place by the States at the earliest since the depleting ground water table has already started threatening the availability of drinking water in both rural and urban areas. The Department in the action taken replies on Report on Demand for grants (2007-08) had expressed helplessness by stating that it has a limited role since the respective State Legislatures have to decide about the legislation.

The Committee would again like the Department to interact assertively with the Ministry of Water Resources and along with them with the State Governments to emphasize upon them the need to put such a legislation in place at the earliest. The Department should also hold review meetings with the States in this regard. The Committee desire that the Department should make all efforts in coordination with

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		the Ministry of Water Resources to motivate the State Governments to implement the said legislation in a time bound manner and keep the Committee informed about the concrete action taken in this regard.
18.	5.25	The Committee further note that over extraction of ground water in urban areas by big builders, industrial houses etc. adversely affect the availability of water in rural areas. The Committee desire that the issue should be addressed in the model legislation being worked out by the Ministry as stated by the Secretary and referred to in the earlier para of the report, so as to have relevant provisions in the building by-laws of the various State Governments in this regard.
19.	5.26	Further, another issue interlinked to the issue of depleting ground water table is rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water. The Committee in the previous Demands for Grant Reports had made a series of recommendations with respect to the said issue. The Committee feel that depletion of ground water table is reaching a critical level and unless urgent action is taken to promote conjunctive use of water through ground, surface and rainwater, a situation of extreme water stress and scarcity may emerge. The Committee feel that the Department should work in a proactive mode to promote rainwater harvesting on a massive scale. For this, mass awareness campaign may be launched where information about simple methods for rainwater harvesting may be disseminated widely. Besides, as suggested by the Committee in their previous Report, the Department should work with the

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Ministry of Water Resources and other Departments to ensure that rainwater harvesting structures are installed in all new rural constructions and encourage the State Governments to modify their building by-laws accordingly. The Committee would also like to reiterate that the issue of identifying an exclusive Private/Government Agency to give technical inputs for promoting rain water harvesting at the earliest should be taken up with each State. The names of agencies so identified should be hosted on the Department's website. The Department may liberally involve NGOs/VOs active in the field in different regions and provide assistance to them through financial grants for the said purpose. The Committee would like the Government to seriously consider the suggestions of the Committee and take concrete actions on the suggested lines.

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5.27

With regard to ensuring that States utilize 5 per cent amount under ARWSP earmarked for sustainability, the Committee have been recommending to the Department to ensure accountability from the States by evolving appropriate mechanisms in this regard. The Committee have learnt that there is a proposal to increase the said amount from 5 to 20 per cent. The Committee urge that the Department should carry out the necessary groundwork before such a proposal is implemented as presently even 5 per cent of the amount is not being utilised. The Committee desire that the Department should consider providing incentives/grants separately to the States to promote sustainability measures and conjunctive use of water.

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21.	5.28	<p>Panchayats have a Central role in ensuring sustainability of systems and sources, particularly when as per the mandate of the Constitution, 73rd Amendment Act all the drinking water projects are to be handed over to Panchayats. However, as informed by the Department, many State Governments have handed over the drinking water schemes on paper but in reality, the Panchayats have not taken over them. The Committee find that additional funds have been given in Twelfth Finance Commission to each and every Panchayat. In this regard, Rs.40 crore has been distributed for operation and maintenance of water supply and sanitation projects to Panchayats. As regards the issue of equipping Panchayats with technical staff to enable these institutions to handle the huge responsibility with regard to maintenance of sources and systems, the Secretary has informed that the Department had requested the PHED staff to be deployed at least for a group of Panchayats. But there is resistance from the PHED staff and the Department are advising Panchayats to recruit their own staff. In the aforesaid scenario, the Committee conclude that much needs to be done to build the financial and functional capacity of Panchayats in this regard. There is an urgent need to take up this issue with various State Governments so that ultimately the responsibility of maintenance of systems and sources of drinking water is transferred to the Panchayats in the real sense. While appreciating the fact that the Finance Commission has allocated exclusive outlay for the maintenance of water supply and sanitation projects, the Committee desire that the issue with regard to</p>

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		<p>providing technical staff should be taken up with the State Governments. Besides, the Department should also take up the issue of equipping Panchayats in this regard with the sister Ministry i.e. Ministry of Panchayati Raj. The concrete action taken in this regard should be communicated to the Committee.</p>
22.	5.29	<p>The Committee note that the main activity to be undertaken under one of the flagship programmes of the Government i.e. NREGA is water conservation and water bodies. There are many watershed schemes of different Ministries/Departments under which the issues related to water conservation are being addressed. In addition, the State Governments may have their own schemes for water conservation. The Committee are of the opinion that there is an urgent need to pool together different initiatives taken by various quarters by proper coordination between the various Ministries of Union Government and the various Departments of State Governments and all other concerned so that the issue of water conservation is addressed in a mission mode. The Committee strongly recommend that Government should take all necessary measures in this regard and inform the Committee accordingly.</p>
23.	6.11	<p>The Committee express concern on the inadequate access of large number of rural households in the country to basic sanitation. The Committee are perturbed to note that despite the pace of implementation of Total Sanitation Campaign picking up over the years, the percentage coverage of rural population reflects a dismal picture where only about</p>

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		<p>49.6 per cent population is covered with sanitation facilities. The Committee feel that mere approval of projects in large number of districts should not be the only criteria to determine the sanitation scenario in the country. They would recommend that in the 'International Year of Sanitation', the Department should take concerted action with a multipronged strategy to achieve the Millennium Development Goal.</p>
24.	6.12	<p>The Department have informed that TSC projects are approved for 584 rural districts of the country which implies that almost all the districts in the country are covered under TSC. However, the increase in the percentage of the people with access to basic sanitation has not been commensurate with the improvement of TSC implementation and approval of projects for large number of districts. The Committee feel that more awareness and IEC activities need to be undertaken so that more project proposals are forthcoming from the States and are implemented in letter and spirit in each district. The Committee hold that on the lines of the baseline data of habitations with drinking water facilities, the Department should evolve online system to include names of TSC projects in each district along with relevant details such as the percentage of people having access to sanitation, number of toilets, IHHL, mobile toilets constructed, status of IEC activities etc. This would help in bringing about more transparency and better monitoring to ensure that the approved projects function properly.</p>
25.	6.13	<p>Further with respect to spreading awareness about hygienic and sanitation practices to</p>



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		<p>ensure that toilets constructed are actually used for the purpose, the Committee recommend that the curriculum in schools and colleges may be suitably modified to include good practices in water and sanitation habits. This would create more awareness about the programme and generate more demand, which is crucial to the success of the programme.</p>
26.	6.14	<p>The Committee while examining the subject learnt that the main indicator for defining coverage is 'access to toilets to a household'. The Committee feel that there may be instances where toilets constructed may not have adequate water availability, may become dysfunctional over a period of time, the people do not have the mindset to use the toilets or they may be of a lower standard due to infrastructural constraints. The Committee urge upon the Department to broaden the scope of sanitation and ensure that all the aspects related to IEC and usage of toilets are taken into account before sanctioning amount for the projects.</p>
27.	6.15	<p>The Committee feel that with respect to sanitation, strict vigilance and monitoring play a key role. The Committee note that few States such as Manipur, Meghalaya, Punjab, Assam, J &amp; K and Bihar are not reporting satisfactory expenditure of funds in this regard. For such States, NGOs have been identified by CAPART to help district authorities in this regard. The Committee strongly urge the Department to maintain a system of regular monitoring through review meetings as well as field visits. The services of DLMs and NLMs to ensure better utilizations of funds as well as verifying the same through physical</p>

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		parameters should also be used in this regard.
28.	6.16	<p>The Committee appreciate the initiative taken by the Department to encourage PRIs in sanitation promotion by awarding Nirmal Gram Puraskar to a PRI which completely eliminates the practice of open defecation, provide water supply and toilet facility to schools and Anganwadis and maintains general cleanliness. The number of PRIs who have won the Nirmal Gram Puraskar has risen from 38 in 2005 to 5000 last year. The Committee are happy to note that over 32000 applications from villages all over the country have been received by the Department for the current year. Besides rewarding the villages in this regard, the State of Sikkim has surpassed all records by being the only State declared totally sanitized in spite of the difficult geographical conditions. The Committee hope and trust that the remaining States will emulate the best practices being adopted by the Nirmal Gram Puraskar winner PRIs. Besides, other States will follow Sikkim, which has shown the way to the country by being the best State in respect of sanitation. The Department have informed that monitoring of such villages by UNICEF is being done. The Committee would like that the Department should also have some sort of mechanism for regular monitoring of the awarded villages and the State of Sikkim.</p>
29.	7.10	<p>The Committee have repeatedly been drawing the attention of the Department in their respective Reports to the need for coverage of all the schools in rural areas in the country under drinking water and</p>

sanitation programmes. As per the Seventh All India Education Survey, there are 8.5 lakh Government schools in rural areas in the country. As regards the status of drinking water, 84,000 rural schools are still to be provided with drinking water facility, as on 1 April, 2007. While reviewing the year-wise performance under school component of ARWSP, the Committee find that during the years 2003-04 and 2005-06, the achievement is 50 per cent. During the year 2004-05, the achievement is far below *i.e.* 30 per cent. Since 2006-07, the targets are not being fixed for coverage of schools in this regard. During the year 2007-08, out of 84,000 schools 18,000 schools could be covered. Thus 66,000 schools remained uncovered. As stated by the Department, the Government had projected to achieve full coverage by March, 2008. Even if the Government data is believed, it will take another four years to cover all the rural schools with the existing pace of coverage. The Committee further note that the ground situation in this regard may not be as projected by the Department. The Committee have repeatedly been stressing to achieve the target of full coverage of the schools within the shortest possible time. The Committee again reiterate that the country cannot wait any more in this regard. The Department have to ensure full coverage when it is a question of providing drinking water in schools. As such all the measures should be taken not only to complete the left-over targets as per the Government's data but also complete the task after reviewing the ground situation in this regard. In this regard the Committee suggest that coverage of schools should be made a component of ARWSP. The ARWSP

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		guidelines may be suitably modified for the same.
30.	7.11	The Committee note with satisfaction that during the year 2008-09, the Hon'ble Finance Minister has made an announcement of special scheme of Rs. 200 crore to improve the potability of water for school children at school level by providing for stand alone purification system. The Committee would like the Department to make sincere efforts for meaningful utilisation of the outlay.
31.	7.12	The Committee note that there may be problem of slippages in the case of drinking water systems in schools also. Even when the Department have procured an elaborate online system to have current status of coverage of slippages of habitations, efforts have not been made to include the position of slippages in case of the schools. The Committee would like the Department to maintain up-to-date information about the status of coverage of schools in rural areas and also indicate it online, so as to bring transparency in this regard. Besides, the basic reason for slippages is drying of sources. In this regard, there is an urgent need to ensure rainwater harvesting structures in the schools. The Department should take up the issue with the State Governments so as to make rainwater harvesting structures in schools mandatory. Besides, there is an urgent need to pay greater attention to have roof top rainwater harvesting structures, particularly in hilly areas. The concrete actions on the suggested lines should be taken and the Committee be informed accordingly.

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32.	7.13	<p>With regard to the sanitation scenario in rural schools, the Committee note that a large number of States are lagging behind in this regard. As regards the roadmap for coverage of all the schools, the Committee have been informed that all the States would be able to achieve 100 per cent coverage by March, 2009 except Jammu and Kashmir, Bihar, Uttarakhand, Goa, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Assam, Manipur and Punjab. Thus, according to the Government's own projections, the total coverage would not be possible even by March 2009. Every year the Government are setting the targets for full coverage and the targets are being spilled over to the next year. The Committee have repeatedly been recommending to cover all the schools within the shortest possible time. Even if being repetitive, the Committee observe that it is a matter of shame for the country that after more than five decades of planned development, our children in the schools do not have the basic facility of toilet. The Committee again strongly recommend to take all out initiatives to ensure that all the schools in the country in rural areas have the toilet facility within the shortest possible time.</p>
33.	7.14	<p>The Department did not furnish any clarification on the issue of providing separate toilet blocks for girls in co-educational schools. The Committee strongly recommend that an element of gender sensitivity should also be included in all projects of TSC by providing separate toilet blocks so as to provide privacy and dignity to girl students in rural areas. The Department should take concrete action in this regard and inform the Committee accordingly.</p>

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34.	7.15	<p>The Committee, further, note that the Government do not have any data with regard to drinking water and sanitation facilities in private schools. The Committee feel that the objective of total schools coverage with regard to drinking water and sanitation cannot be achieved unless the private schools also provide these facilities. In this regard, the Committee recommend that the Department should work in coordination with the Department of Elementary Education and Ministry of HRD to oversee that drinking water and sanitation facilities are ensured in private schools also in rural areas. In this regard, an effective mechanism can be to provide recognition to private schools only when the building structure has adequate facility for drinking water and separate toilets for boys and girls. Not only that, there should be a regular monitoring mechanism with regard to reviewing the certification for such recognized schools so that the drinking water and sanitation facilities are ensured on a continuous basis.</p>
35.	7.16	<p>The Committee further feel that there is an urgent need to include the various issues related to contamination of water, sanitation, water conservation and menstrual hygiene for girls in the schools ensured. Besides, various issues related to contamination of water along with the cost effective techniques to treat the water contamination, particularly due to iron and saline contaminants should not only be ensured in the books as part of the curriculum but can also form part of the practicals of Science &amp; Technology syllabus of the students, particularly when the kits for treating water in this regard are not so</p>

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expensive. In this regard, the Department should take up the matter with the Ministry of HRD. The Committee strongly feel that children are the best medium to give message to community as a whole. As such all the aforesaid experiments would go a long way in finding a long lasting solution to the problem of contamination of water and sanitation. The Department should work in consultation with Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Department of Elementary Education to disseminate information in this regard.

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