

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:242

ANSWERED ON:14.03.2013

DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION FACILITIES IN SCHOOLS

Ajay Kumar SHRI ;Singh Shri Ravneet

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

- (a) the total number of schools in the country along with the number of schools that do not have adequate drinking water and sanitation facilities, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has set any targets to provide drinking water and sanitation facilities in all the schools;
- (c) if so, the details thereof including the funds earmarked for the purpose;
- (d) whether the directions of the Supreme Court on the subject has been complied with and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No.242 for 14.3.2013.

(a): The State/UT-wise total number of Government schools in the country and those that do not have drinking water and toilet facilities, as per information provided by the Ministry of Human Resource Development is given at Annexure.

(b)&(c): As per information provided by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides a time frame of three years from the commencement of the Act for completion of school infrastructure. As part of the implementation of NRDWP and NBA, States have been urged to target coverage of all rural Government schools with drinking water and toilet facilities by the end of 2012-13. The Central funds under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) of Ministry of Human Resource Development, are released to the States/Union Territories for implementation of interventions approved under the Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B) of that State. Under SSA a total allocation of Rs 974 crore has been made for construction of toilets in the year 2011-12 covering all States/UTs. Under National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) of Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, though funds are not separately earmarked for the purpose, States/UTs can provide drinking water supply facilities to all Government rural schools by utilising NRDWP (Coverage) funds released to them. Further under the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA), formerly known as Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC), though there is no separate allocation earmarked for school toilets, school sanitation is an integral component wherein Central assistance is provided to States/UTs for provision of toilet units separately for boys and girls in all Government rural schools which do not have a toilet facility. Schools opened prior to 2007 can be covered under Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA). Beyond 2007, all new school buildings are sanctioned as composite buildings under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) of Ministry of Human Resource Development with facilities for girls and boys toilets and drinking water.

(d)&(e): The Hon'ble Supreme Court in Writ Petition (Civil) No.631 of 2004 in the matter of Environment and Consumer Protection Foundation vs Delhi Administration and Others, has directed, in its order dated 3.10.2012, all States and Union Territories to ensure, inter alia, providing toilet facilities for boys and girls and drinking water facilities, if not already provided, within six months. The SSA seeks to augment school infrastructure with the objective of meeting Right to Education Act requirements for which so far 8,53,624 toilets and 2,29,840 drinking water facilities have been sanctioned across the States / Union Territories. Under NRDWP, from 2010-11 till 10.3.2013, 82,245 rural schools have been provided with drinking water supply facilities and 2,87,654 toilet units have been constructed under NBA. Moreover in compliance of the Hon. Supreme Court's order the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation has written to Chief Secretaries of all States on 9th October, 2012 to personally review the position and give instructions to the concerned officials to comply with the Court's directions.