GOVERNMENT OF INDIA DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1624 ANSWERED ON:07.03.2013 JAPANESE ENCEPHALITIS Noor Mausam

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

- (a) the details of the districts in country including West Bengal affected by Japanese Encephalitis (JE) and Advance Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) caused by unsafe drinking Water, State/UT-wise;
- (b) the measures undertaken by the Government to improve the condition;
- (c) the number of Stand Alone Purification System (SAPS) installed in various States including West Bengal, State/UT-wise;
- (d) the percentage of SAPS installed in West Bengal against the targets set;
- (e) the reasons for slippages, if any; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to achieve the targets set in this regard?

Answer

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

- (a) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare have identified 60 high priority districts in the country including 10 districts in West Bengal, affected by Japanese Encephalitis (JE) and Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) cases. The list of these districts is at Annex-I
- (b) Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments with technical and financial assistance for provision of safe drinking water supply in the rural areas of the country under the centrally sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP). 5% of the NRDWP funds at the National Level are earmarked for Water Quality and allocated to those States with habitations affected by excess chemical contamination and with high priority districts affected by Japanese Encephalitis/ Acute Encephalitis Syndrome. Out of these 5% funds, an amount of Rs. 131.25 crore has been allocated to the 60 high priority JE/AES affected districts in 5 States of which Rs. 65.62 crore has been released so far. The activities funded under this provision include replacement of shallow public hand pumps with India Mark-II hand pumps, raising hand pump platforms in shallow aquifers, providing energized tubewells with public stand posts with proper disinfection, intensive sanitary survey & sealing platforms for avoiding leakages, awareness generation and solid and liquid waste management.
- (c) to (f) As reported by the States on the Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) till 4/3/2013, stand-alone water purification systems have been installed in 91,771 schools against a target of 1,00,000 rural schools under Jalmani programme. In West Bengal, as reported by the State, such systems have been installed in 4581 schools against the target of 6032 rural schools i.e. an achievement of 75.94%. The State/UT-wise physical achievement in installation of stand-alone water purification systems in the country, as reported by States as on 4/3/2013 is at Annex-II. The reasons for delay in achieving targets by some of the States including West Bengal, include procurement issues, selection of appropriate technology and identification of schools. These States have been advised to fully achieve their targets by the end of the current financial year 2012-13.