GOVERNMENT OF INDIA DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:7 ANSWERED ON:05.12.2013 NIRMAL BHARAT ABHIYAN Panda Shri Baijayant

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

- (a) the main objectives of Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA) and guidelines issued thereunder;
- (b) the details of the strategy adopted to achieve the objectives of the programme;
- (c) the funds released by the Government under the Programme during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has received complaints regarding misappropriation of funds released under NBA and if so, the details thereof and action taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (e) whether the Government has taken any initiative to improve rural participation under NBA and if so, the details thereof?

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. 7 for 5.12.2013.
- (a) The main objectives of the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA) as listed in the Guidelines are as under:
- # Bring about an improvement in the general quality of life in the rural areas.
- # Accelerate sanitation coverage in rural areas to achieve the vision of Nirmal Bharat by 2022 with all Gram Panchayats in the country attaining Nirmal status.
- # Motivate communities and Panchayati Raj Institutions promoting sustainable sanitation facilities through awareness creation and health education.
- # To cover the remaining schools not covered under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and Anganwadi Centres in the rural areas with proper sanitation facilities and undertake proactive promotion of hygiene education and sanitary habits among students.
- # Encourage cost effective and appropriate technologies for ecologically safe and sustainable sanitation.
- # Develop community managed environmental sanitation systems focusing on solid & liquid waste management for overall cleanliness in the rural areas.
- (b) Under NBA, the following strategies have been adopted to achieve the objectives of the Programme:
- # A shift from motivating individual household toilet construction to covering whole communities in a Gram Panchayat saturation mode for holistic sanitation outcomes.
- # A National Sanitation and Hygiene Advocacy and Communication Strategy Framework for 2012-2017 has been adopted.
- # Conjoint approach with National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) has been adopted to ensure water availability for sanitation services in Gram Panchayats.
- # Focused convergence of rural sanitation with associated Ministries including Health, School Education, Women and Child Development with NBA.
- # Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM) on a project mode with possible dovetailing with MGNREGS.

Provision of incentive for IHHL enhanced to Rs. 4600/-(Rs. 3200/- from Central share with additional Rs. 500/- for hilly and difficult areas) and Rs. 1400/- from State share. Incentive also extended to Identified Above Poverty line(APL) households that include all SC/STs, Small and Marginal farmers, landless laborers with homestead, physically handicapped persons and women headed households.

Additional provision of up to a ceiling of Rs.4500/- for construction of Individual Household Latrines (IHHLs) from Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) through convergence.

- (c) The funds released by the Government under the Programme during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise is at Annexure-1
- (d) The details of complaints received regarding misappropriation of funds released under NBA, during the last three years and the current year, State/UT wise are at Annexure-II. Sanitation is a State subject and Government of India supports the efforts of the State Governments in accelerating the sanitation coverage in rural areas. Complaints that are received from various quarters are immediately forwarded to the respective State Governments for appropriate corrective measures.
- (e) The Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA) is a community led programme and the community plays an important role in the planning and implementation of the programme. Panchayati Raj Institutions(PRIs) also play a strategic role in creating awareness and imparting hygiene education among the local population. Initiatives under Information, Education and Communication (IEC) which have been taken up to improve rural participation in the NBA include enhancing the budget for IEC activities, implementation of Sanitation and Hygiene Advocacy and Communication Strategy Framework (2012-2017), which provides a framework to States to develop Statespecific Action Plans for rolling out of advocacy and communication activities related to the Programme; involvement of Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs), village level Motivators (Swachhata Doots/Sanitation Managers), field functionaries like Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA), Anganwadi Workers, School Teachers, and Bharat Nirman Volunteers to carry out field level activities. Convergence with MNREGS has also resulted in improved rural participation under the Programme. NBA also has a provision for 'Social Audit' for continuous and comprehensive public vigilance of the programme.