

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4242
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2014
UNDER UTILISATION OF FUNDS UNDER DRINKING WATER SCHEMES
Hussain Shri Syed Shahnawaz

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has conducted any survey regarding funds required for various States/Union Territories including Bihar to provide safe drinking water for all;
- (b) if so, the details and outcome thereof;
- (c) whether some State Governments/UTs have not utilised funds fully provided under the drinking water and sanitation schemes during the last three years;
- (d) if so, the details of the funds sanctioned and utilised during each of the last three years;
- (e) the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (f) whether there is any penal provision for under-utilisation of funds; and
- (g) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) and (b) Rural drinking water supply is a State subject. This Ministry supplements the efforts of the States by providing them with technical and financial assistance, under the centrally sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), for providing safe and adequate drinking water facilities in rural areas of the country.

The Working Group set up by the Planning Commission for the preparation of the Approach Paper for the 12th Plan, had estimated the requirement for providing adequate safe drinking water supply to all rural areas to be Rs. 272377 crores.

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) The State/UT wise details of Opening Balance, funds allocated, released and expenditure under the NRDWP and under the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA) for last three years is at Annexure I and II respectively.

(e) to (g) The Ministry monitors the progress of implementation of NRDWP and NBA through the physical and financial reports provided by the States on the online Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of the Ministry. The Ministry also monitors the proper utilization of funds by reviewing the programme periodically by conducting conferences of the State Secretaries/Engineer in Charge in charge of rural water supply and sanitation, regional review meetings, video conferences etc. Senior officers/Programme officers/Technical officers of the Ministry visit the States to see the progress of implementation of the programme. For drinking water supply, the States have also been asked to prepare and approve a shelf of projects with an estimated cost of two to three times the quantum of annual available funds so that there is no slippage in utilization of funds. Under both the programmes, States are permitted to have 10% of the previous years releases as opening balance as on 1st April of the Financial Year.

States with high opening unspent balances are penalized by delaying the release of the 1st installment until the excess unspent opening balance is exhausted. Under the NRDWP, in 2013-14, 27 States were not released their full 1st installment initially because of high opening balances while under the NBA, 10 States have not been released any funds due to high unspent balance.