

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4309
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2014
AVAILABILITY OF DRINKING WATER
Singh Shri Prabhunath

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

- (a) the percentage of households which have to travel more than half a kilometer for drinking water;
- (b) whether it is a fact that over 20 percent of Indians get their water from unsafe sources including untreated sources from tap and uncovered wells;
- (c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) whether it is a fact that less than 5 percent of households get their drinking water from tap; and
- (e) if so, the measures taken to supply safe drinking water in every household in rural India?

Answer

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

(a) As per Census 2011, 22.10% of the rural households in India have to travel more than half a kilometre for collecting drinking water.

(b) As per Census 2011, only 15.8 % of rural households do not have access to improved sources of drinking water.

(c) to (e). As per Census 2011, 30.8% of the rural households have access to piped water supply. Rural water supply is a State subject. This Ministry supplements the efforts of the States to provide drinking water supply including through piped drinking water supply schemes, by providing technical and financial assistance to the States under the centrally sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP). The State Governments are vested with powers to select, plan and implement drinking water supply schemes under the NRDWP. The Ministry has urged the States to take up more piped drinking water supply schemes in the 12th FYP period under the NRDWP.

The Ministry has also prepared a Strategic Plan for rural drinking water supply for the period 2011-2022, covering the next two Five Year Plan periods, which stresses on extending the piped water supply to more households in the rural areas. The interim goal till 2017 is to cover 50% of all rural households with piped water supply, with 35% of rural households having household connections. By 2022, the goal is to cover 90% rural households with piped water supply, with 80% having household connections.