

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4310  
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2014  
SAFE DRINKING WATER  
Chavda Shri Vinod;K. Shri Parasuraman

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

- (a) whether the border areas of the country which are adjoining desert and sea areas have shortage of safe drinking water;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details thereof including Gujarat;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to resolve the problem in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government has made special provisions for providing safe drinking water in drought affected areas; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV)

(a) and (b) Rural habitations where shortage of drinking water in rural area exist are those areas where the service delivery level of drinking water is less than 40 litres per capita per day (lpcd) or where the drinking water source is contaminated with either one or more of chemical or biological contaminants. As per information entered by States/UTs on the online Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of the Ministry, as on 15.12.2014, out of a total of 1696664 rural habitations in the country, 1279883 habitations are fully covered, 344597 are partially covered and 72184 habitations are quality affected.

As far as Desert and Coastal areas are concerned, in the States having such areas, there are total of 8,08,384 habitations out of which 5,51,005 habitations are fully covered, 2,11,135 habitations are partially covered and 46,244 habitations are quality affected. State wise details of these areas are at Annexure.

(c) Rural water supply is a State subject. Government of India releases funds to the States for strengthening of Rural Water Supply under National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP). The State Governments are vested with powers to select, plan, approve and implement drinking water supply schemes under the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), to cover more habitations with piped drinking water supply.

(d) and (e) Under National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), 2% of the total yearly allocation is set aside under calamity component to be used in case of natural calamities including drought. As per Standard Operating Procedure, in order to face any crisis due to drought or any other calamity, States are requested to prepare Contingency Plans which include activities like deepening of wells; rejuvenation, repair, replacement of pumping machinery including handpumps; augmentation of source; construction of new wells, re-boring of old tube wells, hydro-fracturing and water supply through tankers.

The Ministry also seeks regular reports on the various activities taken up by the States to mitigate drinking water problems in the event of drought. Funds for mitigation of drought from the calamity components are released to the States on the directions of the High Level Committee (HLC) on the basis of the recommendations of the Inter Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) who make assessment of requirement of funds after field visits.