

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1757  
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2015  
ACCESSIBILITY TO SAFE DRINKING WATER  
Kachhadia Shri Naranbhai;Karandlaje Km. Shobha

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

- (a) whether a part of the population has to cover a distance of more than 500 meters to get potable water;
- (b) if so, the details along with the percentage thereof, State/UT-wise and the steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether under the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), the norm for providing drinking water in rural areas has been fixed at 55 liters per capita per day (lpcd) during the 12th Five Year Plan and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether certain shortcomings have been detected in the implementation of NRDWP in various States of the country and if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (e) the remedial measures taken/being taken by the Government to remove the shortcomings in the implementation of said Programme and to provide drinking water to all of the habitations of the country; and
- (f) whether the Government has any mechanism to monitor the programmes at various levels and ensure safe drinking water in all the habitations of the country and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

- (a) Yes, Madam . As per Census 2011, 22.10% of rural households have to travel more than half a kilometer for fetching drinking water in rural areas.
- (b) The state-wise details as per Census 2011 are at Annexure. A budgetary allocation of Rs.9250 crores has been provided for NRDWP in 2014-15. Under NRDWP, the Government of India has given priority to cover partially covered habitations and quality affected habitations with safe drinking water. In the Twelfth Five year plan period, the focus of Government of India is on piped water supply.
- (c) In the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) the norm for providing drinking water in rural areas has been fixed at 40liters per capita per day (lpcd). However in the 12th Five Year Plan, those States who have achieved the service level of 40 lpcd can go in for service level of 55 lpcd based on water availability, demand, capital cost involved , affordability etc . As per the data entered by the States on the Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of the Ministry as on 02.03.2015, out of the 16,96,664 rural habitations in the country, 7,97,302 habitations are fully covered, 8,30,384 habitations are partially covered and 68,978 habitations are quality affected as per the service level norm of 55lpcd.
- (d) & (e) Drinking Water supply is a State subject. Under the NRDWP, the State Governments are vested with the powers to plan, execute and implement drinking water supply schemes. The State Governments, in consultation with the Ministry, prepare Annual Action Plans each year, to implement rural water supply schemes. During Annual Action Plan discussions States are urged to give more focus on quality affected habitations and to cover them on priority basis.
- (f) The Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation reviews the implementation of the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) periodically by conducting national and regional review meetings and video conferences with the State Department officers dealing with rural water supply. Conference of State Secretaries in-charge of Rural Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation of all States was recently held on 22nd January, 2015 wherein the progress achieved under NRDWP was reviewed.