

Drinking Water in Punjab

6794. S. ATINDER PAL SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Municipal Committees/Notified Area Committees and rural blocks, separately, in Punjab where facility of safe and purified drinking water has been made available;

(b) whether Government propose to formulate a scheme to provide safe and purified drinking water in all those areas where it has not yet been made available;

(c) if so, the details thereof?

(d) the total amount being allocated to Punjab for the purpose during the current financial year;

(e) the time by which the target of providing safe drinking water in all areas is likely to be achieved; and

(f) the details of the target fixed for the year 1990-91?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA):

(a) Out of 2254 problem villages (PVs) as on 1.4.85 and 129 towns, 1306 PVs and 95 towns have been covered fully or partially with safe drinking water facilities upto the end of Seventh Five Year Plan.

(b) and (c). Schemes for towns are taken up under State Sector Plan and those for PVs under State Sector Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) and Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) depending upon annual plan outlay.

(d) The provision made by the State Government in its budget for 1990-91 is Rs. 2.75 crores for drinking water for towns and Rs. 18 crores under MNP for rural areas. The allocation for 1990-91 is Rs. 3.804 crores under ARWSP and Rs. 1.65 crores for Mini Mission Project Areas.

(e) All 948 residual PVs are likely to be provided safe drinking water facilities by the end of VIII Plan. 34 uncovered towns are likely to be covered by the end of the Decade.

(f) The target for rural areas for 1990-91 is to cover 100 hardcore PVs and 270 other peripheral villages. About 13 partially covered towns are likely to be taken up in 1990-91.

Conversion of Telephone Exchanges in Raipur

6795. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to convert the existing telephone exchange in Raipur into an electronic exchange;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The existing Exchange equipment has not outlived its life and hence no replacement has been planned. However, the additional demand are being met from the newly installed electronic RLU Exchange.