

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

**RAJYA SABHA**

**QUESTION NO 09.11.2010**

**ANSWERED ON**

**IMPROVING SANITATION COVERAGE IN THE COUNTRY .**

147

SHRI R.C. SINGH

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether the Minister is persuading the States the importance of coverage sanitation which now stands at just 66 per cent in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof ;
- (c) whether sanitation coverage, particularly in rural areas, is not up to the mark; and
- (d) if so, the details of plans made to achieve the total sanitation by involving Panchayati Raj Institutions and district management?

**ANSWER**

## MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

(MS. AGATHA SANGMA)

(a)to(d): The Government of India administers the Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC), a comprehensive programme started in the year 1999 to ensure sanitation facilities in rural areas with the main goal of eradicating the practice of open defecation and ensuring clean environment. Total Sanitation Campaign is a demand driven, project based programme taking district as a unit. Sanitation coverage in rural areas of the country was only 21.9% as per census 2001. With the effective implementation of TSC, the sanitation coverage in rural areas of the country has increased to approximately 67% as of October 2010 as per the progress reported by the States through on line monitoring system maintained by the Department. To accelerate the sanitation coverage further, Information Education and Communication (IEC) and Human Resource Development (HRD), the key components to generate and meet demand for sanitation have been strengthened. Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS) is having regular reviews with the State Governments of the States that are lagging behind. A national conference of State Ministers in-charge of sanitation was held on 28th October 2010 at Vigyan Bhawan New Delhi to accelerate rural sanitation coverage. State level workshops are held to give district officials more exposure to good practices, encouraging them to involve Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in implementation etc. Besides, the funds allocated for TSC in 2010-11 at Rs.1580 crore reflect an increase of 31.67% over the previous year.