

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER & SANITATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3526
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.03.2017

Streamlining of Drinking Water System

3526. SHRI M.I. SHANAVAS:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken steps to streamline the system of providing drinking water across the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any system has been evolved to complete the pending projects aimed at improving the availability of drinking water in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
(SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI)

(a) Rural drinking water supply is a state subject. For improving the coverage of safe drinking water to rural population, this Ministry supplements the efforts of the states by providing them with technical & financial assistance through the centrally sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP). The State Governments have been empowered to plan, design, execute and operate schemes for providing clean drinking water after getting the same approved by the State Level Scheme Sanctioning Committee (SLSSC).

Up to 67% fund allocated to the states under NRDWP can be utilized for coverage of water quality affected habitations and for tackling water quality problems. Further, 5% of the NRDWP funds are earmarked for Water Quality and allocated to those states with habitations affected by excess chemical contamination and with high priority districts affected by Japanese Encephalitis / Acute Encephalitis Syndrome. In addition to this, 3% NRDWP fund is also provided for water quality monitoring & surveillance, which inter alia include taking up works relating to setting up of new / up-gradation of districts / sub-district water quality testing laboratories, providing chemicals & consumables to laboratories, providing field test kits / refills to Gram Panchayats etc. Further, up to 10% of NRDWP funds allocated to states could be utilized for sustainability of drinking water sources through artificial recharge of ground water and other methods, which inter alia may also dilute the level of contamination in aquifers.

(b) to (d) Currently the focus of the Ministry is on the completion of all ongoing schemes. The States have been directed to complete the ongoing schemes first according to priority as under:-

- a) > 75 physically completed
- b) > 50% to < 75% physically completed
- c) > 25% to < 50% physically completed

For effective monitoring of the ongoing schemes, the States have been directed to enter the % of physical progress of every scheme which is to be milestone based for piped water supply schemes on the Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of the Ministry. The completion of all schemes as per the above order would result in improving the availability of drinking water.

