

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1754**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.12.2017**

**Restructuring of NRDWP**

**1754. SHRI HARISH MEENA,  
SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA,  
SHRI NINONG ERING,  
SHRI PARVESHSAHIB SINGH:**

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has recently restructured the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) or proposes to review and adopt changes in Drinking Water Management Policy and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the goal of increasing the coverage of sustainable piped water supply to the rural population across the country has since been achieved during the last three years;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which the restructuring of the NRDWP will help in covering the entire rural population to get safe piped drinking water across the country;
- (d) the resultant change in the estimated costs of the NRDWP and the time-frame for implementation of the same;
- (e) the extent of visible changes that have been seen with the implementation done so far and the extent of anticipated change with the restructured programme; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to ensure supply of safe drinking water to every household in rural areas?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION  
(SHRI S S AHLUWALIA)**

- a) Yes Madam. This Ministry has restructured National Rural Drinking Water Program (NRDWP) intending to make it competitive, outcome based and result oriented and mainly for piped water supply schemes.

Now 10% Weightage for making allocation of funds to States / UTs will be based on Population residing in habitations having affected by chemical contaminants.

Under restructured NRDWP, release of fund under various components is as under:

- 50 % of allocation will be released as first instalment as per approved criteria of allocation of funds to the States / UTs.

- 25% Sustainability (Functionality) component of allocation will be released on the basis of a third party evaluation study of completed piped water supply schemes in States / UTs.
- 25 % (in reimbursement cum competition mode) of allocation will be released after complete utilisation of available central fund and pre-financing & utilization of this part of allocation along with state matching share by the States / UTs within a time frame.

(b) Yes Madam. As per strategic plan for the rural drinking water sector for providing Piped Water Supply (PWS) to rural population, goal was to provide 50 % of rural population with PWS by 2017 which has been achieved. As per information entered by States on Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of the Ministry, rural population getting PWS during 2014-15 was 50.90% which has increased to 54.98 % as on 26.12.2017.

(c) After the restructuring of the NRDWP, States have been asked to focus mainly on Piped Water Supply schemes with 88% of total fund available exclusively for the same. With the availability of more funds, States can cover more habitations under NRDWP with piped water supply.

(d) Rural Drinking Water Supply is a State subject. This Ministry provides technical and financial assistance to supplement the efforts of States to provide safe drinking water in rural areas. Moreover, as per the recommendation of 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission, there has been an enhanced devolution of funds to the States from 32% to 42%, part of which can be used in strengthening the rural drinking water supply systems by the states. There is also direct funding of substantial amount to rural local bodies for basic services including water supply. Further, the states have also been advised to pool more funds from domestic / external financial agencies. The medium term budget outlay for the NRDWP for this year and next two years is as under:

Year	Central share (in Rs. crore)
2017-18	6050
2018-19	6655
2019-20	7320

(e) As per information entered by States on IMIS, Fully covered habitations (i.e. getting more than 40 litre per capita per day safe drinking water) has increased from 73.66% (as on 01.04.2014) to 77.42% (as on 26.12.2017). Further, Coverage of population with PWS has increased from 50.90% (2014-15) to 54.98 % (as on 26.12.2017). Under restructured NRDWP guidelines, States with competitive and functionality oriented approach, will now focus more on providing safe pipe water supply and ensuring the functionality of completed schemes which will help in achieving ultimate goal.

(f) This Ministry has directed States to focus more on Piped Water Supply schemes. States have also been directed to focus on nearly completion of the schemes which are in advanced stage of completion. While doing so, this Ministry has directed the States that priority is to be accorded to the schemes meant for Arsenic / Fluoride affected habitation and Open Defecation Free (ODF) villages. Further, the states have also been advised to pool more funds from their own resources / loan from external / domestic financial agencies. With this increased devolution of funds, States/UTs can take up more schemes and achieve its ultimate goal.

