

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER & SANITATION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3841
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.01.2019

Progress of NRDWP

3841. KUNWAR BHARATENDRA:

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

- (a) whether the Government can provide data/information regarding the progress of the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP);
- (b) whether the Government has taken any steps to address the audit report of the CAG of poor execution of works and weak contract management; and
- (c) whether any measures have been taken to address reports of contamination of drinking water as under the programme?

ANSWER

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

(a) NRDWP is a centrally sponsored scheme under which this Ministry provides technical and financial assistance to State Government for providing safe drinking water in rural areas. Under NRDWP, coverage of safe drinking water in rural areas is maintained in terms of Fully Covered habitations (i.e. getting more than 40 litre per capita per day (lpcd) safe drinking water), Partially Covered habitations (i.e. getting less than 40 lpcd safe drinking water) and Quality Affected habitations (i.e. containing chemical contaminant). As reported by States on Integrated Management Information System (IMIS), 80.42% rural habitations are Fully Covered, 16.00% rural habitations are Partially Covered and 3.58% habitations are getting water from sources which contain at least one chemical contaminant. Further, 55.14% rural population are covered with piped water supply through Public Stand Post and out of which 17.93% rural households have been provided with tap connection.

(b) Rural Water Supply is a State subject. State Governments are responsible for planning, designing and execution of drinking water supply schemes as well as management of all contracts / schemes. However, to improve the implementation of NRDWP, Ministry has restructured it in November 2017 by making it competitive, result oriented and outcome based. The report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Performance Audit of

NRDWP was shared with the states on 21st August 2018, and the states were asked to take necessary corrective and preventive action on the points raised in the report and submit an action taken report to MDWS. Further, a reminder was sent to states on 8th November 2018 for the same. MDWS is following up with states on this subject.

c) 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 and financial assistance through the centrally sponsored scheme National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP). It is the State Governments who plan, design, approve, execute, operate & maintain the schemes for providing safe drinking water to rural population. The funds provided to the States under NRDWP can be utilized for taking up schemes in water quality affected areas on priority.

To deal with arsenic and fluoride contamination, with the recommendation of National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog), Government of India had released Rs. 1,000 crore in March 2016 for commissioning of Community Water Purification Plants (CWPPs) and last mile connectivity of piped water supply schemes.

In addition, the Ministry had launched National Water Quality Sub-Mission (NWQSM) on 22.03.17 to provide safe drinking water to 27,544 arsenic / fluoride affected rural habitations in a span of 4 years, subject to availability of funds.