

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER & SANITATION  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.743**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2019**

**Accessibility of Drinking Water**

**743. SHRI OM BIRLA:**

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

- (a) the percentage of households in the country which have to travel more than half a kilometre to fetch drinking water;
- (b) whether it is a fact that over 20 per cent of Indians get their water from unsafe sources including untreated sources from the tap and uncovered wells;
- (c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) whether it is a fact that less than 5 per cent of households get their drinking water from the tap; and
- (e) if so, the measures taken to supply safe drinking water in every household in rural India?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) This Ministry does not maintain information with respect to 'percentage of households, which have to travel more than half a kilometer everyday to get drinking water'. However, as per the Census 2011, 22.1% of the rural households have to fetch drinking water from a distance of more than 500 meters in rural areas.
- (b) & (c) The Ministry categorizes the habitations as fully covered habitations if at least 40 liters per capita per day (LPCD) of safe water is available, partially covered habitations if the availability of water is less than 40 liters per capita per day (LPCD) and quality affected where quality of water is chemically contaminated. As reported by States on the online Integrated Management Information System (IMIS), till date out of 17.19 Lakhs total rural habitations in the country, 80.61% rural habitations are fully covered, 15.82% habitations are partially covered and 3.56% habitations are quality affected.
- (d) No, as reported by State Governments on IMIS, as on date 18.05% of total rural households have tap connections.
- (e) Although Rural Drinking Water Supply is a State subject, this Ministry supplements the efforts of the State Governments for improving coverage of rural drinking water supply by providing technical & financial assistance through Centrally sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) as per the budgetary allocation for the same. Under NRDWP, during 2018-19, Rs. 5143.02 Crore have been released to various States.