GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI DEPARTMENT OF DRINKING WATER & SANITATION LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2087 TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.07.2019

Access to Drinking Water

†2087. SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any scheme has been formulated under National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) to provide 70 litre of clean drinking water per day to every rural person in their houses or within a distance of 50 metres and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any time-limit has been set to provide clean drinking water in all the rural areas of the country including Rajasthan under the said scheme;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to improve cooperation and technical capacity of local administrative institutions and communities and expand them in order to achieve this target?

ANSWER MINISTER OF STATE FORJAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA)

(a)to (c) Under centrally sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), the norm for providing safe drinking water in rural areas is 40 litre per capita per day (lpcd). As reported by States on Integrated Management Information System (IMIS), 76.25% rural population are getting safe drinking water as per norms and 19.77 percent of rural population is getting safe drinking water lesser than the norm. Further, State Governments have been given the flexibility to adopt their own higher service delivery norms based on water availability, demand and funds available.

Water supply is a state subject. It is the State Governments who plan, design, approve, execute and operate & maintain the schemes for providing safe drinking water to rural population. The Ministry provides technical and financial assistance to States including Rajasthan under NRDWP for improving the coverage of safe drinking water in rural areas.

(d) Under NRDWP, the delivery mechanism of rural drinking water supply has been institutionalized at State, District and Village / Panchayat level and emphasis is laid on decentralized approach. The aim has been to create awareness among rural people and to enhance the capacity of Panchayati Raj Institutions / Local Bodies/ Village Water and Sanitation Committee (VWSC) /Gram Panchayat Water and Sanitation Committee (GPWSC) with the objective of enabling them to take up planning, implementation and operation and maintenance activities related to rural water supply systems. For this, States may utilize up to 5 % of NRDWP funds under Support component. In addition, States may utilize enhanced devolution of funds under 14th Finance Commission to improve basic facilities in rural areas including drinking water.