

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:294
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2000
RURAL SANITATION
AMBATI BRAHMANAIAH

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the extent to which the Government schemes to enhance rural sanitation have been successful;
- (b) whether rural sanitation has been neglected for other reasons;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government have set target to achieve rural sanitation objectives;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the details of special schemes finalised to improve the rural sanitation in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A.RAJA)

(a) to (f): The rural sanitation coverage in the country is estimated as 16 to 20 per cent of the total rural households. The Planning Commission has suggested the target of 25% of rural sanitation coverage by the end of the Ninth Plan period. The Central Rural Sanitation Programme was initially started in 1986. Keeping in view the past experience, this Programme has been restructured w.e.f. 1st April, 1999. The Restructured Programme moves away from the principle of State-wise allocations primarily based on poverty criteria to a `demand-driven` approach. It is community led and people centred. The allocation based programme will be phased out progressively. In the Restructured Programme, the Total Sanitation Campaign is being implemented in `project mode` in identified 58 pilot districts in the country. The Total Sanitation Campaign lays stress on Information, Education and Communication, School Sanitation, Alternate Delivery Mechanism, Individual household latrines and Sanitary Complex for women along with the different technological options as per the local requirements. During the current financial year, the Central budget allocation under Plan has been increased from Rs.110 crores to Rs.140 crores.