

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:19
ANSWERED ON:17.02.2006
ESTABLISHMENT OF WATER TESTING LABORATORIES
Athithan Shri Dhanuskodi

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has started the water quality monitoring and surveillance programme for testing the quality of all drinking water sources;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is providing any assistance for establishment of stationary as well as mobile water testing laboratories in all district headquarters;
- (d) if so, the details of such laboratories established in the country along with the funds provided by the Government during the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and
- (e) the guidelines issued by the Government to the States for routine analysis of water samples for their physiochemical and microbial quality?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PARTS (a) to (e) OF REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 19 DUE FOR REPLY ON 17.02.2006

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) Drinking water supply is a State subject. The Government of India renders financial and technical assistance to the States in this endeavour through a centrally sponsored programme, namely, Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). Under this umbrella programme, the water quality monitoring and surveillance programme was started in the year 1988 to develop an integrated system by setting up of district level laboratories for water quality testing, reporting and generating awareness among rural masses about the importance of water quality and its relation to health. Over time, a need was felt to institutionalize community based water quality monitoring and surveillance systems in the country. Therefore, Government of India has introduced the National Rural Drinking Water Quality Monitoring & Surveillance Programme in February 2006 to be implemented at three levels. At the first level by involving Gram Panchayats, Village Water and Sanitation Committees (VWSC) and Grass root level workers like Anganwadi workers, Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA) of National Rural Health Mission, School teachers, Primary Health Centres, laboratories of schools, educational and technical institutions etc. At the second level district level water quality testing laboratories /Polytechnics / Health Department Laboratories will do the monitoring and surveillance of drinking water sources in close coordination with gram panchayats and village water and sanitation committees. The nodal unit at the State level would be State Referral Institute / State Laboratory. The National Institute of Communicable Diseases, New Delhi has been identified as the National Referral Institute to act as consultants for Water Quality Monitoring and Surveillance programme. An MoU has been entered into with them for this purpose. Activities relating to preliminary water testing etc. is to be carried out by the Gram Panchayat / VWSCs by user-friendly field testing kits and positively tested samples may be referred to district level laboratories, intermediary units and/or the State level laboratory. The State Water and Sanitation Mission / District Water and Sanitation Mission would be supervising and facilitating awareness creation and capacity building of the Gram Panchayats / VWSCs etc. 100% funding, as per the approved norms, is being provided to the States for strengthening water quality monitoring facilities. These include funds for Information, Education and Communication (IEC), Human Resource Development (HRD) and Monitoring and Surveillance Activities like field testing kits. Health Department officials at all levels are to be increasingly involved in the surveillance activity.

(c) For establishing stationary district level water quality testing laboratory, wherever, the facility was not available, assistance to the tune of Rs 1,86,500 per laboratory was provided to the State Governments prior to 1993-94. After 1993-94, this unit cost was revised to Rs 4 lakh per unit (Rs. 1 lakh for laboratory building and Rs. 3 lakh for equipments, chemicals and glassware). This funding pattern is still continuing. During the period 1988-1993, 23 mobile laboratories were sanctioned. However, the sanction of mobile laboratories was discontinued in 1993-94.

(d) Details of laboratories sanctioned and established, State-wise is given in Annex-1. The funds released during the last 3 years and

current year State-wise is given in Annex-2.

(e) Govt. of India had issued Executive guidelines for Implementation of Water Quality Testing Laboratories for routine analysis of water samples for their physiochemical and microbial quality, in May 1990. This is available at our website www.ddws.gov.in. Guidelines for National Rural Drinking Water Quality Monitoring & Surveillance Programme envisaging water quality testing at the grass root level by user-friendly field testing kits have also been issued and the same are also available on the Departmental web site.

Annex - 2

Statement referred in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question no. 19 due for reply on 17/2/2006

Year-wise and State-wise funds released during the last 3 years and the current year for setting up of district level water quality testing laboratories

Sl.No. State Funds released in Rs lakh
2002-03 2003-04 2004-05 2005-06

1	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.00	6.00	0.00
2	Mizoram	8.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	Orissa	0.00	0.00	36.00	0.00
4	West Bengal	14.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Bihar	0.00	66.00	0.00	0.00
6	Chattisgarh	0.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
	Total	22.00	86.00	42.00	0.00

Annex - 1

Statement referred in reply to Lok Sabha Starred question no. 19 due for reply on 17/2/2006

SETTING UP OF DISTRICT LEVEL WATER QUALITY LABORATORY

Sl.No. Name of the State/UT No. of Districts No. of Laboratories Status Stationary Total Mobile
By centre By State bished Sanct- Deliv-
Sanct- Estab- Estab- ioned ered
ioned lished lished

1	Andhra Pradesh	23	14	14	37	51	-	-
2	Arunachal Pradesh	15	13	1	0	1	-	-
3	Assam	23	21	21	2	23	-	-
4	Bihar	37	35	2	2	4	1	1
5	Chandigarh (UT)	1	0	0	0	-	-	-
6	Chattisgarh	16	16	6	2	8	-	-
7	Goa	2	1	1	1	2	-	-
8	Gujarat	25	13	5	4	9	1	1
9	Haryana	19	18	18	1	19	-	-
10	Himachal Pradesh	12	10	10	5	15	1	1
11	Jammu & Kashmir	14	9	6	2	8	3	3
12	Jharkhand	22	16	6	6	-	-	-
13	Karnataka	27	21	9	0	9	-	-
14	Kerala	14	4	4	10	14	-	-
15	Madhya Pradesh	48	48	48	14	62	1	1
16	Maharashtra	35	3	3	27	30	1	1
17	Manipur	9	8	3	0	3	1	1
18	Meghalaya	7	7	7	0	7	1	1
19	Mizoram	8	4	4	0	4	1	1
20	Nagaland	8	6	2	0	2	1	1
21	Orissa	30	30	29	0	29	1	1
22	Punjab	17	12	4	0	4	-	-
23	Rajasthan	32	23	23	10	33	1	1
24	Sikkim	4	3	2	0	2	1	1
25	Tamil Nadu	30	24	24	6	30	1	1
26	Tripura	4	3	3	3	6	1	1
27	Uttar Pradesh	70	67	8	1	9	1	1
28	Uttaranchal	13	3	0	3	-	-	-
29	West Bengal	18	17	13	6	19	1	1
30	A&N Island	2	1	1	0	1	-	-
31	D & N. Haveli	1	1	1	0	1	-	-
32	Daman & Diu	2	2	2	0	2	-	-
33	Delhi	9	0	0	6	6	1	1
34	Lakhadweep	1	7	2	7	9	-	-
35	Pondicherry	4	2	2	2	4	-	-
36	DL. Jodhpur					1	1	
37	ITRC, Lucknow					1	1	

38 AIIPH&PH, Calcutta 1 1
All India 602 459 287 148 435 23 23

Note : 67 district water quality testing laboratories approved for esrtwhile Uttar Pradesh, which included Uttaranchal also.