

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:519
ANSWERED ON:19.05.2006
DATA ON AVAILABILITY OF WATER
Ramadass Prof. M

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are discrepancies in the data with regard to accessibility and availability of drinking water in rural areas in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Indian Institute of Public Administration has given validated data of habitation survey conducted by it;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has evolved a better mechanism of reporting by State Governments so that the gross mismatch between physical and financial achievements could be bridged; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

The Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 519 to be answered on 19.5.2006

(a) to (d) To ascertain the status in regard to coverage of various rural habitations in the country with drinking water supply, State Governments and Union Territories were requested to conduct a fresh Habitation Survey to assess the status of coverage of rural habitations as on 1.1.2003. The survey data received revealed that there was a considerable increase in the number of Not Covered (NC) and Partially Covered (PC) habitations as compared to the figures of the habitations of the Comprehensive Action Plan prepared in 1999 (CAP 99). In order to ascertain its veracity and also to check the statistics provided by the States/UTs and the criteria adopted by them for classification of habitations into NC, PC and Fully Covered (FC) categories, it was decided to have the validation of the habitation survey results done by independent evaluators in two phases. Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) were entrusted to conduct the first phase. The first phase involved clarificatory meetings with the State Governments regarding habitation survey results provided by them and the collection of additional information regarding location of each habitation; development of questionnaire/check list to be developed so as to collect the necessary information and remove the data gaps etc., and the discrepancies noticed keeping in view the guidelines for implementation of rural water supply programme and survey to be removed on the basis of information provided by State Government officials. IIPA has so far given data in respect of 17 States/UTs which is being examined. In the second phase, random survey of habitations is being undertaken for the purpose of field verification after which the validation of the survey will be completed.

(e) & (f) The drinking water supply component of Bharat Nirman envisages that all remaining uncovered habitations of the Comprehensive Action Plan 1999 (CAP 99) are to be covered by 2009. In addition all habitations which have slipped back from full coverage to partial coverage/not covered status due to failure of source and habitations which have water quality problems, are to be addressed. The earlier Monthly Progress Report (MPR) format did not contain the coverage of habitations for CAP99, slipped back as well as quality affected habitations separately. It also did not contain the names of the habitations covered, coverage of habitations under sustainability. The earlier format also did not contain information regarding expenditure on coverage of habitations under different programmes, coverage of rural schools, expenditure under Submission and expenditure of sustainability. In view of this MPR formats have been comprehensively amended to evolve a better mechanism of reporting by State Governments.