

(c) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to counter drinking' water scarcity in those villages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHAN-DRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) and (b) No such report has been received from the State Government. However as on L4.96 there were 22 not covered and 12,762 partially covered habitations in the State.

(c) The target is to cover 22 not covered and 5978 partially covered habitations, during 1996-97 and the remaining partially covered habitations in the subsequent years. An allocation of Rs. 88.10 crore under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme and Rs. 204.89 crore under State plan funds have been made during 1996-97.

Slow Implementation of Integrated development of Small and Medium Towns

576. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the slow pace of implementation of the

Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT);

(b) the steps being taken to enhance the pace of progress in this area;

(c) the budgetary allocations for the purpose during the current year; and

(d) the trend of utilisation of the same in previous years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. V. VENKATESWARLU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The guidelines for implementing the IDSMT Scheme have been revised in August, 1995 and circulated to all State Government and UT Administrations. The revised guidelines provide for release of Central and State shares under the scheme as grant and reduction in the share of institutional finance. The salient features of the Revised IDSMT Scheme guidelines are annexed as statement *(see below)*.

(c) The budget allocation for IDSMT Scheme during the current year is Rs. 35 crores.

(d) during the first 4 years of the VIII Plan (1992—97), the budget allocations made for IDSMT Scheme and Central Assistance released to State Govts/UT Admns. are as follows:

| Year | Budget Allocation | Central Assistance released (Rupees in crores) |
|----------------|------------------------------|---|
| 1992-93 | 15.00 | 11.60 |
| 1993-94 | 22.00 | 21.50 |
| 1994-95 | 25.00 | 24.41 |
| 1995-96 | 30.00 | 29.65 |

From 1979-80 till 1995-96, 828 towns were covered under IDSMT and Central share for project implementation amounting to Rs.258.05 crores released. Till March, 1996, the State Governments and UT Admns. have reported a total expenditure of Rs.349.32 crores against central share (+) State share (+) institutional finance released under IDSMT.

Statement*Revised Guidelines for the Scheme of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns,': Salient Features*

The Scheme of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT) aims at the development of selected regional growth centres with infrastructure and service facilities. The objective is to enable them to emerge as centres of economic growth and employment opportunities and arrest migration from rural areas and small towns to large and metropolitan cities. The revision of IDSMT guidelines was necessitated on account of two major factors (i) India's economic reforms and (ii) enactment of the Constitution (74th) Amendment Act

providing for municipal decentralisation. Keeping in view the need to strengthen infrastructure in urban areas which are emerging as centres of investment and economic growth and to promote decentralisation reforms with the objective of taking power to the people, certain modifications to the guidelines of the IDSMT Scheme which has been in operation from 6th Plan have been approved by the Cabinet on 18.7.95. The important among these changes are:—

1. Extension of the coverage of IDSMT Scheme to towns with a population upto 5 lakhs.
2. Applicability of the Scheme to Cities/Towns with elected municipal governments.
3. New financing pattern as follows:—

| Category of Towns (Population) | Project Cost | Central Assistance (Grant) Maximum | State Share (Grant) | HUDCO Loans other financial institutions other sources |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|--|------------------------|--|
| A (Less than 20000) | 100 | 48 | 32 | 80 (20%) |
| B (20000 — 50000) | 200 | 90 | 60 | 50 (25%) |
| C (50000 — 100000) | 350 | 150 | 100 | 100 (29%) |
| D (1— 3 lakhs) | 550 | 210 | 140 | 200 (36%) |
| E (3 — 5 Lakhs) | 750 | 270 | 180 | 300 (40%) |

The project costs indicated at(x)ve are based on a "Minimum Project Cost" concept, implying that the costs of projects for a town in a particular category should be at least the amount indicated for that category in the column "Project Cost".

4. Enabling the selected cities and towns to take up a judicious mix of remunerative, cost recovery-based and non-remunerative projects, keeping the overall urban and regional development goals in views.

5. A rigorous planning process consisting of the preparation of state urban development strategy paper, city/town investment plans and IDSMT project reports to implement such plans.

6. Provision of Central assistance for the preparation of City/Town Development Plans/IDSMT Project reports.

7. A package of municipal reforms in line with the 74th Amendment Act including creation of revolving fund at the municipal level to promote development of infrastructure on a continuing basis.

बिहार में विलेकाधीन कोटे से पेट्रोल और गैस एजेंसियों का दिया जाना

577. श्री रामदेव भंडारी: क्या ब्रजानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) बिहार के पधुवनी जिले में मंत्री के विलेकाधीन कोटे से पेट्रोल पम्प एवं गैस एजेंसियाँ