

**Japanese technical know-how for the  
Konkan Railway Project**

\*40 SHRI KAPIL VERMA;  
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA.

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether Japanese technical know-how has been sought for the Indian Railway projects, particularly the underground tunnelling technology for the Konkan project;

(b) if so, the highlights of the proposals being taken up,

(c) what was the outcome of the talks with a Japanese team which had visited India in November 1990; and

(d) whether a joint working group has been set up in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS)

(a) to (d) During the 2nd meeting of the Indo-Japan Working Group for Railways held in November, 1990; areas of Indo-Japanese cooperation in various railway fields were identified and taken note of by the Japanese delegation. The fields include Studies for tunnelling in various geo-technical formations including those for Konkan Railways. No Joint Working Group has been set up exclusively for the Konkan Railway Project

**Villages without Drinking Water facilities**

118 SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA. Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) the number of villages in the country at present and the number of villages, State-wise, which are still without potable water facility;

(b) the steps taken so far and being taken to expedite drinking water facilities in those villages; and

(c) whether Government have any time-bound programme in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH). (a) As per the reports received so far from various States/UTs at present, there are 7328 'No Source' problem villages yet to be provided with safe drinking water facilities. The number of such villages, Statewise, is given in the attached Statement (See below).

(b) 4166 'No Source' problem villages are likely to be covered by 31-3-91 under the State Sector Minimum Needs Programme, Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme etc

(c) Most of the remaining 3162 problem villages are likely to be covered in the second year of VIII Plan. However, the actual time frame for coverage of hard core problem villages in hilly areas in Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab etc. will depend upon the availability of financial resources in VIII Plan, infrastructure, normal time required for completion of schemes etc.

**Statement**

*Number of 'No Source' problem villages*

Sl No	State/UTs	Balance as on 1-12-1990
1	Assam	319
2	Bihar	26
3	Gujarat	72
4	Haryana	88
5	Himachal Pradesh	923
6	Jammu & Kashmir	847
7	Madhya Pradesh	109
8.	Meghalaya	1327