

(b) if so, the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) The matter regarding setting up of Regional Fluorosis Mitigation Center at Gandhinagar by upgradation of existing institutions is under consideration. State Government of Gujarat has already been informed to send a formal proposal in this regard, which is awaited.

Identification of landless rural BPL families

†2386. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified or are contemplating to identify the landless rural families, living below the poverty line for house allotment on priority basis,

(b) if so, the details thereof, as on date,

(c) the State-wise details of the landless rural families identified till date; and

(d) the number of houses allotted to the homeless persons and the persons living below the poverty line under various housing schemes, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Rural Development had issued the guidelines to conduct the BPL Census 2002 to identify the Below Poverty Line (BPL) families in the rural areas, who could be assisted under its various programmes. The uniform household schedule prescribed for the Survey includes the provision for collection of information on landless households in the rural areas. The results of the BPL Census could not be finalized as the Hon'ble Supreme Court had passed a stay order in a Writ Petition (Civil) No. 196/2001 in the matter of PUCL V/s Union of India, which has now been vacated on 14.2.2006. The State-wise details of landless rural families will only be available after the results are finalized by the States and UTs.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing rural housing programme under the name Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY). Under this programme, financial assistance is provided to rural BPL houseless households for construction of dwelling units. The houses are constructed by the beneficiaries normally on their own plot. However, in case the selected beneficiary does not have a plot of land, it is for the State Governments/Gram Panchayat concerned to provide a plot to such beneficiary selected under IAY. Since inception of the scheme, 1.51 crore houses have been constructed under IAY so far.

Swajaldhara in Uttaranchal

2387. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Swajaldhara Scheme launched by Government in 2003 is being implemented, as demand driven community managed and decentralized programme in Uttaranchal;

(b) if so, whether Uttaranchal Government has requested the Central Government to allocate funds under this programme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Upto 20% of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) funds may be allocated for the Swajaldhara scheme annually. At the beginning of each financial year, funds under Swajaldhara scheme are allotted to all States from the Centre as per the inter-State ARWSP allocation ratio fixed for the year. The States then make district-wise allocations and consider specific proposals at District Water and Sanitation Committee. (DWSC)/State Water and Sanitation Mission (SWSM) level and approve them in conformity with Swajaldhara Guidelines. The Central Allocation under Swajaldhara for Uttaranchal for 2006-07 is Rs. 741.00 lakhs with a project cost of Rs. 986.00 lakhs, of which Rs. 650.96 lakhs has already been released as 1st instalment for 11 districts. At present no demand from Uttaranchal is pending with the Government of India.