

[17 August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

Electricity Authority and counter guarantee have already been issued. However, it is true that several private sector power projects, including the Bhadrawati project, have been inordinately delayed for various reasons, the foremost reason being the poor financial health of the State Electricity Boards (SEBs) and their inability to provide adequate security cover such as escrow arrangement, etc. As regards the supply of coal to the Bhadrawati project, the proximity of the earlier allocated captive coal mines to an Ordnance Factory, led to change in the mining arrangements and consequently, a new coal supply arrangement became necessary. Government will provide all necessary assistance to the project to ensure that it overcomes all the remaining hurdles and achieves financial closure at the earliest possible. The Government of Maharashtra (GOM) have also constituted a Task Force under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary. The Task force members have been discussing all pending issues from time to time with a view to resolving them.

Action plan to provide potable water

2593. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently prepared a Rs. 50,000 crores comprehensive action plan to provide potable drinking water to all the villages in the country during the next five years;

(b) whether Government are expected to cover 2,51,560 habitations who either partially or totally, do not have any source of water supply as on 1st June, 2000;

(c) the Central outlay to be allocated during the next five years State-wise; and

(d) whether there is any likely increase in budgetary provisions for 2000-2001 provided for safe drinking water to rural areas of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) Water supply is a State subject and various drinking water supply schemes for rural habitations are implemented by the State Governments with the funds provided to them under the State Sector Minimum Needs Programmes (MNP). The Central Government only supplements the efforts of the States by providing assistance under the Centrally sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). Powers have been delegated to the States to plan, sanction and implement rural water supply schemes.

The Government envisages to provide safe drinking water supply facilities to all rural habitations in five years. All the State/UT Governments have prepared action plan to provide safe drinking water to all rural habitations in their respective States in five years and have indicated the requirement of funds for the same. Based on the action plans of the State/UT Governments, a Comprehensive Action Plan has been prepared, according to which an amount of Rs. 45,000.00 crores (approximately) would be required to achieve the objective of providing safe drinking water supply facilities to all rural habitations in five years. The objective of providing drinking water supply facilities to all the rural habitations in the country could be achieved in five years, subject to availability of funds.

(c) and (d) The total Central Plan outlay for Rural Water Supply Programme during the Ninth Five Year Plan is Rs. 8150.00 crores. State-wise allocation under the ARWSP is made at the beginning of each financial year as per the approved allocation criteria on the basis of the total budgetary allocation under ARWSP for that year. The State-wise provisional allocation of ARWSP funds for the year 2000-2001 is given in the Statement (*see below*). The State-wise allocation for 2001-2002 and subsequent years would be worked out only at the beginning of each year based on the budget allocation provided for ARWSP in those years.

The Central Plan outlay for Rural Water Supply Programme has been enhanced from Rs. 1800.00 crore during 1999-2000 to Rs. 1960.00 crore during 2000-2001.

[17 August, 2000]

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Statement

State-wise allocation of funds under ARWSP during 2000-2001

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	State	2000-2001
1	Andhra Pradesh	11600.00
2	Arunachal Pradesh	3492.00
3	Assam	5898.00
4	Bihar	9380.00
5	Goa	1404.00
6	Gujarat	7085.00
7	Haryana	1943.00
8	Himachal Pradesh	5091.00
9	J. and K.	8788.00
10	Karnataka	10350.00
11	Kerala	5746.00
12	Madhya Pradesh	11109.00
13	Maharashtra	16934.00
14	Manipur	1282.00
15	Meghalaya	1373.00
16	Mizoram	981.00
17	Nagaland	1020.00
18	Orissa	6213.00
19	Punjab	2383.00
20	Rajasthan	16361.00
21	Sikkim	650.00
22	Tamil Nadu	7308.00
23	Tripura	1216.00
24	Uttar Pradesh	14775.00
25	West Bengal	7895.00
26	A and N Islands	13.00
27	D and N Haveli	7.00
28	Damand and Diu	0.00
29	Delhi	5.00
30	Lakshadweep	0.00
31	Pondicherry	5.00
TOTAL:		160306.00