

- (a) whether it is a fact that Rajasthan is the largest State of the country geographically;
- (b) whether Government proposes to increase the allotment of kerosene from 42636 KL to 71600 KL per month, keeping in view the geography and population of the State; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir, Rajasthan is geographically the largest State of the country.

(b) and (c) At present, there is no proposal under consideration in this Ministry for increasing the allocation of PDS Kerosene to the State of Rajasthan. At present, the PDS Kerosene quota for the State of Rajasthan has been fixed at 5,11,404 KL for the year 2011-12, after effecting a reduction of 240 KL, as this quantity remained unlifted by the State Government during 2010-11, without any extension of time sought for lifting. On the same grounds, reductions have been made in respect of other States as well.

**Augmentation of staff- strength, in the officer of
Accountant - General, Kerala**

*300.DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comptroller & Auditor General (CAG) and the Central Government have received any request from the employees' organizations for increase in staff strength in the offices of the Accountant-General, Kerala (Audit), in view of the increased work load in these offices; and

(b) if so, whether the Government will consider the request favourably?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) As per the information provided by the C&AG Office, no request from the employees' organizations for increase in staff strength in the offices of the Accountant General, Kerala (Audit), has been received by the C&AG Office. The Central Government has also not received any such request in this regard so far.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Exodus from villages due to water scarcity

2171. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI:

Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to media reports regarding exodus from villages due to water scarcity in several parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) what remedial measures Government proposes to take to stop the exodus from villages?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) The Government of India is not aware of reports regarding exodus from villages due to drinking water scarcity. State Governments are responsible to provide drinking water to the rural areas. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the States by providing financial and technical assistance to States under the centrally sponsored scheme, National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), to provide access to adequate and safe drinking water in rural areas. The Government of India has increased the budgetary allocation for NRDWP from Rs.8000 cr. in 2009-10 to Rs. 9350 cr. in 2011-12.

Rural habitations without toilets

2172. SHRI MANGALA KISAN: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state the number of habitations in rural areas having no toilets in any of their households till date. State-wise and district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): Government of India administers the Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC), a comprehensive programme started in the year 1999 to ensure sanitation facilities in rural areas with the main objective of eradicating the practice of open defecation and ensuring clean environment. It is project based programme taking district as a unit. TSC, at present, is being implemented in 607 rural districts of the country. The main components under the programme are incentives for Individual Household Latrines (IHHL), School Sanitation and Hygiene Education (SSHE), assistance for Community Sanitary Complex, Anganwadi toilets and Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM). A district project comprises of Gram Panchayat wise details of households and other components of TSC requiring improvement in sanitation facilities. The sanitation coverage in rural areas was 21.9% as per census 2001. With the effective implementation of TSC, the sanitation coverage in rural areas has increased to approximately 73.10% as of July 2011 as per the progress reported by the States through on line data monitoring system maintained by the Ministry. The habitation wise details of the status of sanitation facilities are not maintained by the Ministry.