

**Supply of safe drinking water to every households**

955. SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether twenty per cent of Indian households have to travel more than half a kilometre for drinking water;

(b) whether over twenty per cent of Indians get their water from unsafe sources including untreated sources for tap-users and uncovered wells;

(c) whether it is also a fact that less than five per cent of households get their drinking water from a tap; and

(d) if so, the measures taken to supply safe drinking water to every household in rural India?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir. As per Census 2011, 22.10% of rural households have to travel more than half a kilometer for fetching drinking water in rural areas while 8.1% of the urban households have to fetch drinking water from a distance of more than 100 metres.

(b) Yes, Sir. As per Census 2011, 24.4% of households access drinking water from sources that include untreated water from taps, uncovered wells and other sources.

(c) No, Sir. As per Census 2011, 30.8% of the rural households and 70.6% of urban households get their drinking water from taps.

(d) The Government of India administers the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) under which the financial and technical assistance is provided to States to supplement their efforts to provide adequate safe drinking water to the rural population. A budgetary allocation of Rs. 10,500 crores has been provided for NRDWP in 2012-13. Under NRDWP, the Government of India has given priority to cover partially covered habitations and quality affected habitations with safe drinking water. A further 5% of NRDWP allocation is also earmarked for allocation to those States facing problems of chemical contamination in drinking water or with Japanese Encephalitis and Acute Encephalitis Syndrome affected high priority districts. In the Twelfth Five Year Plan period, the focus shall be on piped water supply, to promote piped water supply in rural areas. The Government of India is taking steps to cover all rural habitations and households with safe and adequate drinking water supply on a continuous basis.

**Drinking water crisis in Jaintia Hills**

956. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state: