

Problem of drinking water in Rajasthan

†662. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the drinking water problem in Rajasthan is more acute as compared to the other States due to its special geographical conditions; and

(b) the details of the unspent amount out of the funds allocated by Government under this head and the number of Dhans (homes), which have been supplied clean drinking water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) Under the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) of the Ministry, the norm is to provide every rural person a minimum of 40 litre per capita per day (lpcd) of safe drinking water which includes water requirement for drinking, cooking, bathing and other daily uses. The comparison of data related to coverage of habitations in Rajasthan *vis-a-vis* the entire country (as on 26.2.2015) is as below:

	Number of habitations	Fully Covered		Partially Covered		Quality Affected	
		Number of habitations	%	Number of habitations	%	Number of habitations	%
Entire Country	1696664	1295984	76.38	331422	19.53	69258	4.08
Rajasthan	121133	70340	58.06	27629	22.80	23164	19.12

From the above it is seen that Rajasthan has acute water quality problem where the number of habitations affected with water quality problem is very high.

(b) Under NRDWP, out of Central allocation of ₹ 1277.99 crores during the current Financial Year (2014-15), ₹ 1236.89 crores has been released. Unspent balance with the State on 1.4.2014 was ₹ 335.15. Against this, an expenditure of ₹ 949.42 crores has been incurred (upto January, 2015 as per IMIS data) leaving unspent balance of ₹ 622.62 crores with State Government of Rajasthan.

Ministry maintains data regarding coverage of drinking water supply in rural areas in terms of habitation only and not in terms of Dhans (Homes). Accordingly, out of Total of 1,21,133 rural habitations in Rajasthan, 70,340 (58.07%) are fully covered while the 27,629 (22.80%) are partially covered and 23,164 (19.12%) are quality affected, as per the reports of State entered in the Ministry's Integrated Information Management System (IMIS) as on 25-02-2015.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.