

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) Yes.

(b) Sanitation is a mindset/behavioural issue influenced by Socio-cultural practices adopted since centuries. The biggest obstacle in eliminating open defecation is changing this mindset.

(c) The Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) has been launched on 2nd October, 2014, which aims at attaining an Open Defecation Free India by 2nd October 2019. The following Steps have been taken to bring attitudinal changes among people :—

- Demand is sought to be created by triggering 'Behaviour change' by intensifying Information, Education and Communication (IEC) and Inter Personal Communication (IPC) campaigns.
- Partnership with various stakeholders working on rural sanitation including Multilateral organisations, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Civil Society Organisations, Self Help Groups (SHGs), Institutions etc. is being promoted.
- Flexibility has been given to States in implementation of the Mission, since Sanitation is a State subject.

Per capita availability of drinking water

1554. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that per capita availability of drinking water is declining rapidly;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last five years;

(c) whether Government has found any other reasons besides population as the main reasons for decline in per capita availability of water; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) No Sir, as per information provided by States/UTs on Ministry of Drinking water and Sanitation online monitoring portal Integrated Management Information System (IMIS), as on 01.04.2011, out of total rural habitations in the country, 70% habitations were fully covered with the availability of 40 Litres per capita per day, whereas as on 05.05.2015, 78.16% of total rural habitations have been fully covered with availability of 40 Litres per capita per day.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Other than increase in population, erratic rainfall, over-exploitation of ground water are amongst the major reasons for decline in overall per-capita availability of water.

Drinking water problem in Andhra Pradesh

1555. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that out of 13 districts in Andhra Pradesh, 9 districts are facing the problem of salinity and remaining four districts are drought prone and are facing water scarcity on regular basis;

(b) whether the Ministry is also aware that 45 per cent of habitations have per capita water supply below the national average of 55 LPCD and more than 1,200 habitations have water quality problems;

(c) whether Government has received a proposal from State Government to provide sufficient money to supplement its efforts; and

(d) if so, what action the Ministry has taken on the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) As per information received from Government of Andhra Pradesh and as per data available in the online Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of the Ministry, 9 out of 13 districts are having salinity problems in rural drinking water sources and a very few habitations are also affected with salinity in other 4 districts. These 4 districts are also drought prone and are facing water scarcity on regular basis.

(b) In Andhra Pradesh, more than 45% of rural habitations have service level of drinking water supply below 55 liters per capita per day (lpcd). As on 6/5/2015, a total of 1,336 rural habitations are affected with chemical contamination like fluoride, iron, salinity or nitrate in one or more drinking water sources.

(c) During the year 2011-2012, a project to a tune of ₹ 350 crores was sanctioned to Andhra Pradesh under Thirteenth Finance Commission (TFC) to tackle salinity problems in 9 coastal districts of the State. The project is targeted for completion by August 2015 covering 838 rural habitations. For Rayalaseema region, an amount of ₹ 35.95 crores was also sanctioned under TFC covering 272 rural habitations.

(d) Rural Drinking Water Supply is a State Subject and the Union Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation is supplementing the efforts of State Governments