

(b) whether NRDWP is being implemented on a sharing basis with the share of Central and State Governments therein;

(c) whether many State Governments have demanded release of Centre's share, at the earliest;

(d) whether the State Government of Tamil Nadu has requested the Central Government to release a sum of ₹ 926.23 crore under NRDWP; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Rural Water Supply is a State subject. Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation under the Central Sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) provides financial & technical assistance to State Governments for rural drinking water supply. State Governments are vested with the power to plan, design, approve and implement rural drinking water supply schemes. During the year 2015-16, an amount of Rs. 4264.58 crores has been provided to States for the purpose.

As per NRDWP guidelines, the schemes are co-funded on Centre State sharing basis which varies from State to State and component to component of NRDWP.

(c) Funds are released to the States in two instalments. In the year 2016-17, first instalments funds to the tune of ₹ 1986.66 crores have been released to the States early in the month of April-May 2016. Second instalment of funds are released after getting the proposals from the States along with requisite documents as per the guidelines.

(d) and (e) Allocation to the States is made as per the NRDWP Guidelines. The total allocation of Tamil Nadu State for the year 2015-16 was Rs. 137.50 crore against which Rs. 182.35 crore (which includes additional funds release) had been released to them. In the year 2016-17, ₹ 62.16 crore has already been released to the State against allocation of Rs. 126.72 crore.

Problem of fluoride contamination in drinking water in Himachal Pradesh

720. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the problem of fluoride contamination in drinking water has been reported in many States;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of habitations affected by fluorosis in Himachal Pradesh; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to mitigate the problem of contamination in drinking water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI): (a) and (b) As reported by the States into the online Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of the Ministry, as on 20/7/2016, the problem of excess fluoride in rural drinking water sources is reported by 17 States in 13,949 habitations and the State-wise number of fluoride affected habitations is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) As on 20/7/2016, the Government of Himachal Pradesh has not reported any fluoride problem in drinking water sources in any rural habitation.

(d) Rural drinking water supply is a State subject. The Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Government of India assists the States in providing safe drinking water in the rural areas of the country through the centrally sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP). Under this programme, upto 67% funds released to the States could be utilized for coverage and tackling water quality problems. As per the NRDWP guidelines, 10% of the total budget is allocated to North Eastern States. As per Strategy Plan of the Ministry, 90% of the rural population would be provided with safe drinking water by the year 2022 through surface water based piped water supply schemes, subject to availability of funds. However, with the recommendation of NITI Aayog, the Government of India had released Rs 800 crore in March' 2016 to provide community water purification plants in all remaining arsenic and fluoride affected habitations by March' 2017 so that 8-10 litres per person per day of safe drinking water is made available in the remaining arsenic and fluoride affected habitations for drinking and cooking purposes, as large piped water supply schemes take a long gestation period for commissioning. Further, with the recommendation of NITI Aayog, Government of India had also released ₹ 100 crore in March' 2016 as one time central assistance for last mile connectivity of commissioning surface water based piped water supply schemes in fluoride affected habitations of Rajasthan.

Statement

*State-wise number fluoride affected rural habitations and population
at risk in the country as on 20/7/2016*

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Fluoride	
		Habitations affected	Population at risk
1.	Andhra Pradesh	491	344134
2.	Assam	155	69520
3.	Bihar	1087	1356585
4.	Chhattisgarh	75	27669
5.	Gujarat	11	20086
6.	Haryana	200	505875
7.	Jharkhand	1000	521616
8.	Karnataka	1065	628397
9.	Kerala	73	210067
10.	Madhya Pradesh	148	52751
11.	Maharashtra	100	221161
12.	Odisha	70	27325
13.	Punjab	285	339117
14.	Rajasthan	6855	4773509
15.	Telangana	1041	1420415
16.	Uttar Pradesh	229	345589
17.	West Bengal	1064	621815
TOTAL		13949	11485631

Establishment of water quality testing laboratories

721. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Water Quality Testing Laboratories (WQTLs) existing in the country, as on date, State/UT-wise;

(b) whether a WQTL exists in each district of the country and if not, the steps taken by Government to set up a WQTL in each district of the country;

(c) whether Government proposes to establish WQTLs in all the districts of Himachal Pradesh; and