

Water supply and sanitation

10.82 The Tenth Five Year Plan envisages the provision of potable drinking water to every settlement in the country on a sustainable basis and the pursuit of all possible measures for the rapid expansion and improvement of sanitation facilities in rural and urban areas.

10.83 As per Census of India, if a household has access to drinking water supplied from a tap, hand-pump/tube well within or outside the premises, it is considered as having access to safe drinking water. Census 1991 reported the coverage of households in India having access to safe drinking water at 62 percent, comprising over 81 percent of urban households and around 56 percent of rural households (Appendix Table 9.6). The 54th Round of National Sample Survey (July 1999) on drinking water, sanitation and hygiene estimated that 50 percent of rural households were served by a tube well/hand pump, 26 percent by a well, and 19 percent by taps.

10.84 Safe drinking water and improved sanitation play a major role in the overall well being of the people, with a significant bearing on infant mortality rate, death rate, longevity and productivity. The poor, both in rural and urban areas, bear a disproportionately higher burden of the non-availability of water, as well as its poor quality. Seasonal disruption of water supply is common, especially during summer months. Fetching of water for domestic use, sometimes from far-flung sources, is a time-consuming physical burden borne by women, particularly in the rural areas. Apart from repercussions on health, this also affects their overall well-being. Moreover, 70-80 percent of illnesses are related to water contamination and poor sanitation. Women and children are particularly vulnerable to the effects of water contamination. It is also a matter of concern that despite the progress achieved in provision of water supply, the level of water-related sickness continues to be high.

10.85 As per Census 1991, less than one-fourth of households in the country had toilet facilities within the premises, the proportion being less than 10 percent for rural and around 64 percent for urban households. The 54th

Round of NSS (July 1999) estimated that only 17.5 percent of the rural population were using latrines. In urban areas, 26 percent of households reported using no latrine, 35 percent reported using septic tank and 22 percent used the sewerage system, i.e, 43 percent of households in urban areas either had no latrines or no connection to a septic tank or sewerage.

10.86 While water supply and sanitation facilities are important components of the overall strategy for development, social issues such as primary health care, women's welfare, child nutrition, immunization and eradication of illiteracy are equally significant and inter-linked, thus necessitating a convergence of approach in implementation of these programmes.

Rural water supply

10.87 The Department of Drinking Water Supply under Ministry of Rural Development has been mandated to provide safe drinking water in all rural habitations, by April, 2004. To achieve this objectives the programmes like the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP), the Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana –Rural Drinking Water (PMGY-RDW) are being implemented. Considerable success has been achieved in meeting the drinking water needs of the rural population. With an investment of over Rs.34,000 crore, 91.06 percent of rural habitations have been fully covered (FC) with drinking water facilities and 7.93 percent are partially covered (PC).

10.88 The Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP), currently implemented through the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission in the Department of Drinking Water Supply, has been in operation since 1972-73 to assist the States and UTs to accelerate the pace of coverage of safe and adequate drinking water supply facilities to the rural population. The programme focusses on the coverage of all rural habitations specially the un-reached ones, to ensure sustainability of the systems and sources, to tackle the problem of water quality and institutionalize water quality monitoring and surveillance

through a Catchment Area Approach. Necessary reforms have been introduced in 1999 so as to gradually replace the government oriented, centralized, and supply driven programmes by a people-oriented decentralized, demand driven and community based one. The reform initiative now under implementation in 67 selected pilot districts is being scaled up through 'Swajaldhara' where Block/Panchayat/Village/Beneficiary Group can also avail the benefit of the reforms with 10 percent contribution by the community in cash upfront and full responsibility for operation and maintenance.

10.89 The Central funding for the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) was Rs.1,975 crore in 2001-02. The allocation has been stepped up Rs.2,110 crore in 2002-03. An amount of Rs.1,402.29 crore has been released by the Centre and Rs.1,163.40 crore separately by the States out of State Sector funds, upto January 28, 2003. The number of habitations covered during 2002-03 (upto January 28, 2003) are 27,668. It is proposed to cover 63,869 habitations during the year.

10.90 The provision of potable drinking water to all villages has been identified as one of the priority tasks of the Government. During the Ninth Plan, 72,859 Not Covered (NC) and 3,52,423 Partially Covered (PC) habitations have been covered with water supply facilities. As on January 28, 2003 there are 12,95,504 Fully Covered (FC) habitations, 1,12,804 Partially covered (PC) with a balance of 14,356 habitations as Non Covered (NC) ones. The State wise coverage of habitations under Rural Water Supply is at Table 10.15.

10.91 An area of concern is the re-emergence of uncovered villages in view of non-involvement of people in design/operation/maintenance of assets and fast depletion of ground water levels leading to problems of arsenic and fluoride content being enhanced. This necessitates addressing of the issues of control on ground water withdrawal, water harvesting, soil and water conservation and community participation for management of drinking water as an economic asset.

Rural sanitation

10.92 The Central Government supplements the efforts of the States in the field of rural sanitation under the Central Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP). This programme was restructured in 1999 and Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) introduced. The TSC envisages a synergised interaction between the Government, people and active NGO participation, besides intensive IEC campaigns, provision of an alternative delivery system and more flexible, demand oriented construction norms. The revised Tenth Five year Plan strategy envisages a shift from allocation based programme to a demand based project mode. Besides, the paradigm shift envisages a greater household involvement, intensive IEC campaigns, stress on software and emphasis on school sanitation. Projects at a total cost of Rs.2032 crore have been sanctioned for 185 identified districts.

10.93 Out of the total outlay of Rs.2,032 crore, the Central Government share is Rs.1,225 crore, share of the State Government is Rs.427 crore while the beneficiary share is Rs.380 crore. Rs.328.89 crore has been released upto January 14, 2003 by the Central Government and Rs.60.74 crore by the State Governments. Total expenditure incurred upto January 14, 2003 is about Rs.177.75 crore. In the 185 project districts, 169 lakh individual household latrines, 20,434 women sanitary complexes, 1.68 lakh school toilets, 13,206 toilets for balwadis, and 1,610 Rural Sanitary Marts/Production Centres have been sanctioned. In these districts, 21.25 lakh individual household toilets, 23,358 school toilets, 795 women sanitary complexes, 1,895 balwadi toilets and 322 Rural Sanitary Marts and Production Centres have been set up, as on January 14, 2003.

10.94 The coverage of rural population with sanitation facilities was estimated to be about 17 percent at the beginning of the Ninth Plan (1997-02) and has increased to 20 percent as on 1.4.2002.

Table 10.15 : Status of coverage of habitations under rural water supply

Sl. No.	State/UT	Status of Habitations			Total	Percentage Distribution			Total
		NC	PC	FC		NC	PC	FC	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	13844	55888	69732	0.00	19.85	80.15	100.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	325	880	3093	4298	7.56	20.47	71.96	100.00
3.	Assam*	441	17585	52643	70669	0.62	24.88	74.49	100.00
4.	Bihar	0	0	105340	105340	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	0	0	50379	50379	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
6.	Goa	8	40	348	396	2.02	10.10	87.88	100.00
7.	Gujarat	50	1428	28791	30269	0.17	4.72	95.12	100.00
8.	Haryana	0	48	6697	6745	0.00	0.71	99.29	100.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	820	9277	35270	45367	1.81	20.45	77.74	100.00
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	1709	3576	5899	11184	15.28	31.97	52.74	100.00
11.	Jharkhand	235	42	99819	100096	0.23	0.04	99.72	100.00
12.	Karnataka	1	17832	38849	56682	0.00	31.46	68.54	100.00
13.	Kerala	782	6879	2102	9763	8.01	70.46	21.53	100.00
14.	M.P.	0	0	109489	109489	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
15.	Maharashtra	1999	24019	59912	85930	2.33	27.95	69.72	100.00
16.	Manipur	4	183	2604	2791	0.14	6.56	93.30	100.00
17.	Meghalaya	327	788	7524	8639	3.79	9.12	87.09	100.00
18.	Mizoram	0	454	457	911	0.00	49.84	50.16	100.00
19.	Nagaland	349	569	607	1525	22.89	37.31	39.80	100.00
20.	Orissa	0	0	114099	114099	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
21.	Punjab	1393	2114	9942	13449	10.36	15.72	73.92	100.00
22.	Rajasthan	5631	2521	85794	93946	5.99	2.68	91.32	100.00
23.	Sikkim	0	290	1389	1679	0.00	17.27	82.73	100.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	0	0	66631	66631	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
25.	Tripura	93	20	7299	7412	1.25	0.27	98.48	100.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh**	0	0	243633	243633	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
27.	Uttaranchal	119	913	29976	31008	0.38	2.94	96.67	100.00
28.	West Bengal	0	9060	69976	79036	0.00	11.46	88.54	100.00
29.	A&N Islands	0	121	383	504	0.00	24.01	75.99	100.00
30.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	30	241	245	516	5.81	46.71	47.48	100.00
31.	Daman & Diu	0	0	32	32	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
32.	Delhi	0	0	219	219	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
33.	Lakshadweep	0	10	0	10	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
34.	Pondicherry	40	70	157	267	14.98	26.22	58.80	100.00
35.	Chandigarh	0	0	18	18	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
Total		14356	112804	1295504	1422664	1.01	7.93	91.06	100.00

NC : Not Covered, PC: Partially Covered, FC: Fully Covered

Note : As per reports received upto January 28, 2003 by Department of Drinking Water Supply.

*In case of Assam F.C. habitations include 114 habitations which are not in existence now.

**In case of U.P., F.C habitations include 125 habitations merged in urban areas.

Urban water supply

10.95 The Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme was launched in 1993-94. It aims at providing water supply to towns with a population of less than 20,000 as per 1991 Census. 2151 towns qualify for consideration under this scheme as per this criterion. As on December 31, 2002, 736 schemes (223 schemes sanctioned during the Eighth Plan, 437 schemes sanctioned during the Ninth Plan and 76 schemes sanctioned during 2002-03) have been approved at an estimated cost of Rs.951.16 crore. As against this, the Government of India has released Rs.435.54 crore and the State Governments have released Rs.311.41 crore during this period.

Urban sanitation

10.96 The Low Cost Sanitation Scheme was envisaged to convert the existing dry latrines into low cost pour flush latrines. The objective of the scheme is to eliminate manual scavenging totally. Under the scheme, a loan and subsidy is extended simultaneously by the HUDCO. The Central subsidy is being routed through the HUDCO. Upto December 31, 2002, 860 schemes in 1496 towns have been sanctioned at a project cost of Rs.1468.72 crore involving GOI subsidy of Rs.512.24 crore and HUDCO loan of Rs.514.96 crore for construction/conversion of 36.75 lakh individual units alongwith 3966 community toilets. Rs.254.72 crore have been released to the States as GOI subsidy and Rs.317.48 crore have been released as loan from HUDCO. 387 towns have been declared scavenger free.