

## Rural water supply and Sanitation

10.62 Water is a State subject, and the schemes for providing drinking water facilities are implemented by the States. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the States by providing financial and technical support. The Tenth Plan envisages provision of safe drinking water to all rural habitations. A major programme - "Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP)" is being implemented since 1972-73 to achieve this objective. With an investment of over Rs. 50,000 crore (up to March 31, 2005), considerable success has been achieved in meeting the drinking water needs of the rural population. More than 3.7 million hand pumps and 1.73 lakh piped water schemes have been installed in the rural areas. As on April 1, 2005, 96.1 per cent of rural habitations were fully covered, and 3.6 per cent were partially covered, leaving 0.3 per cent not covered with drinking water facilities. The diversity in the State-wise coverage of habitations under Rural Water Supply (Table 10.10) needs to be addressed through accelerated improvement in the lagging States.

10.63 ARWSP, currently being implemented through the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission, aims at coverage of all rural habitations with population of 100 and above, specially the un-reached ones, ensure sustainability of the systems and sources, tackle the problem of water quality, and institutionalize water quality monitoring and surveillance through a catchment area approach. Adequate operation and maintenance (O&M) is critical for sustaining water supply systems already created. The annual estimated cost of O&M at Rs. 6,000 crore is heavy for the Government alone to bear. Peoples' involvement is envisaged not only to enhance the economic viability of O&M but also for better upkeep and enhanced life span of the system created. The Central allocation of funds for ARWSP has been stepped up from Rs. 2,900 crore in 2004-05 to Rs.4,050 crore in 2005-06.

10.64 The results of a fresh habitation survey conducted in 2003 are under validation.

<b>Table 10.10 : Status of coverage of habitations under rural water supply (as on April 1, 2005)</b>				
<b>State/UT</b>	<b>Status of habitations</b>			
	<b>NC</b>	<b>PC</b>	<b>FC</b>	<b>Total</b>
Andhra Pradesh	0	0	697.32	697.32
Arunachal Pradesh	158	510	3,630	4,298
Assam	238	7137	63180	70,555
Bihar	0	0	1,05,340	1,05,340
Chhattisgarh	0	0	50,379	50,379
Goa	0	6	389	395
Gujarat	0	36	30,233	30,269
Haryana	0	0	6,745	6,745
Himachal Pradesh	0	6891	38476	45,367
Jammu & Kashmir	660	2,551	7,973	11,184
Jharkhand	0	0	100096	1,00,096
Karnataka	0	5618	51064	56,682
Kerala	0	7573	2190	9763
Madhya Pradesh	0	0	1,09,489	1,09,489
Maharashtra	327	17411	68,192	85,930
Manipur	0	0	2791	2791
Meghalaya	12	239	8,385	8,636
Mizoram	0	112	695	807
Nagaland	41	690	794	1,525
Orissa	0	0	1,14,099	1,14,099
Punjab	803	1,128	11,518	13,449
Rajasthan	2,300	0	91646	93,946
Sikkim	0	74	1,605	1,679
Tamil Nadu	0	0	66,631	66,631
Tripura	0	0	7,412	7,412
Uttar Pradesh	0	0	2,43,508	2,43,508
Uttaranchal	30	242	30,702	30,974
West Bengal	0	0	79,036	79,036
A&N Islands	0	102	402	504
Dadra Nagar Haveli	19	41	476	536
Daman& Diu	0	0	32	32
Delhi	0	0	219	219
Lakshadweep	0	10	0	10
Pondicherry	0	108	159	267
Chandigarh	0	0	18	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>4588</b>	<b>50479</b>	<b>13,67,236</b>	<b>14,22,303</b>
<b>NC : Not covered, PC: Partially covered. FC : Fully covered.</b>				

However, the preliminary results of the survey indicate large incidences of slippage from 'fully covered' to 'partially/not covered' categories due to a number of factors such as: sources going dry, lowering of ground water table, systems outliving their lives, and increase in population resulting in lower per capita availability. Drinking Water Supply is one of the six components of Bharat Nirman, which has been conceived as a plan to be implemented in four years from 2005-06 to 2008-09 for building rural infrastructure. Under Bharat Nirman, it has been envisaged to cover 55,067 uncovered habitations of Comprehensive Action Plan, '99 and also to address the problem of slippage and water quality.

10.65 The Central Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP) launched in 1986 was

restructured in 1999 to introduce the Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC). TSC envisages synergized interaction between Government, people and active NGOs. It also incorporates intensive Information, Education and Communication (IEC) campaigns, provisions of an alternative delivery system and more flexible, demand-oriented construction norms. The revised centrally sponsored scheme envisages a shift from allocation-based programme to a demand-based project mode with greater household involvement, intensive IEC campaign and emphasis on school sanitation. Under TSC, projects in 540 districts covering 30 States/UTs have so far been sanctioned with an approved outlay of Rs. 5694.44 crore.