

Water Supply and Sanitation

10.53 Drinking water supply and sanitation facilities are very important and crucial for achieving goal of "Health for All". The government is committed to provide safe drinking water to every village in the country within five years. The government has expressed its determination to expand and improve expansion and sanitation facility.

10.54 Government provides assistance and technical guidance to states and UTs for formulation and implementation of urban water supply and sanitation programmes through Central Public Health and Environmental Engineering Organisation. The Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) funded by the central and state governments functions to solve the drinking water problems in towns having population less than 20,000 as per 1991 census. In order to encourage participation and sharing of cost by the users, policy initiatives are in progress to involve the community from the planning stage itself, in the supply facilities and their subsequent maintenance under AUWSP. During the year 1999-2000 (upto 9-11-1999), detailed project reports for 59 schemes at a cost of Rs. 80.9 crore have been approved by the central government and an amount of Rs. 31.3 crore has been released to various state governments. Recent provisional data indicate that the rural water supply programmes have covered 3.4 lakh villages/habitations during the Eighth Plan (1992-1997).

10.55 Provision of supply of safe drinking water in rural areas is the responsibility of the state governments and schemes for supply of

TABLE 10.8				
Population Covered with Drinking Water and Sanitation Facilities				
<i>(Percentage coverage as on March 31)</i>				
Item/Area	1985	1990	1995	1998 (Estimated)
Drinking Water Supply				
Rural	56.3	73.9	82.8	92.5
Urban	72.9	83.8	84.3#	90.2@
Sanitation Facilities				
Rural	0.7	2.4	3.6	8.1*
Urban	28.4	45.9	49.9#	49.3@
#	As on 31.3.1993			
*	With government initiative under CRSP, MNP, JRY and IAY			
@	As on 31.3.1997			
Source :	Ministries of Rural Development and Urban Development			
Note :	(i) Figures for Rural Water Supply and Sanitation are based on census population.			
	(ii) Figures for Urban Water Supply and Sanitation are based on current population.			

drinking water in villages are formulated and implemented by the states under the Minimum Needs Programme (MNP).

10.56 The scheme of rural sanitation aims at supplementing the efforts made under different central and state sector programmes for improving sanitary facilities in the rural areas with the over-all objective of improving the quality of life in rural areas.

10.57 Table 10.8 lists access of population to drinking water and sanitation facilities in urban and rural areas. A central provision of Rs.1910 crore has been made in 1999-2000 (BE), registering an increase of 14.4 per cent over 1998-99 (RE) for Rural Water Supply and Sanitation.