

Rural water supply and sanitation programme

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■ **ABSTRACT** : The rural population of India is growing rapidly and exerting considerable pressure on rural services. It is evident that rural infrastructure has been unable to keep pace with the growing population. A great challenge for Indian villages is to make villages livable by providing every citizen with basic services of acceptable quality. Rural water infrastructure typically includes water collection and storage facilities at source sites, water transport via aqueducts (canals, tunnels and/or pipelines) from source sites to water treatment facilities; water treatment, storage and distribution systems; wastewater collection (sewage) systems and treatment; and rural drainage. In order to understand what needs to be done to improve the provision of basic services, we need to know the level of provision of these services. It is for this reason I commission a study to assess the Status of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Programme under Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission in District Varanasi.

■ **KEY WORDS** : Water, Water management, Water consumption, Conservation of water, Sanitation

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