

Facelift for drinking water in Assam



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GUWAHATI: The Centre has sanctioned yet another huge Rs 63.19 crore fund to uplift drinking water in Assam.

Official sources here say the ministry of Rural Development has sanctioned the Rs 63.19 crore balance amount of the first instalment of funds for Asom against the provisional allocation of Rs 189.59 crore for the State Government under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (Normal) of Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission, during the year 2007-08.

Under this sanction, released under this sanction, may be utilized for operation and maintenance and up to 5 per cent of funds may be spent for taking sustainability measures. States have been requested to delegate powers for management of Rural Water Supply Schemes through the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) as per the Constitution of India.

No expenditure shall be incurred on taking water quality problems from this amount as there is a separate allocation for the purpose.

The entire amount is being made for execution/completion of schemes to provide safe drinking water facilities to rural habitations and schools under the Centrally-sponsored ARWSP. Priorities set in ARWSP

guidelines and through other instructions issued from time to time shall be followed for coverage of rural habitations and rural schools.

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