GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI
DEPARTMENT OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.69
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.07.2021

ALLOCATION OF FUNDS TO BIHAR

69 # SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of funds allocated to the State of Bihar during the current financial year under 'Har Ghar, Nal Ka Jal' scheme;
(b) the time-limit set to make tap water available for every household in Bihar;
(c) whether it is a fact that a large area surrounding Ganga river in Bihar is contaminated with Arsenic; and
d) if so, whether Government will introduce a special provisions in this scheme to provide drinking water in this area??

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI
(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)

(a) Government of India has allocated Rs. 6,608.25 Crores to the State of Bihar during the financial year 2021-22 under Jal Jeevan Mission (Har Ghar Jal).

(b) As reported, Government of Bihar has planned to provide tap water connection to every individual household by the end of the financial year 2021-22.

(c) & (d) As reported, by the State, district–wise number of habitations reported to have Arsenic contamination in drinking water sources is **annexed**.

Government of India in partnership with States, is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission(JJM) to provide potable tap water supply to every rural household in the country, by 2024.Under JJM, while planning water supply schemes to provide tap water supply to rural households, priority is given to quality–affected habitations which, inter alia, includes habitations affected with Arsenic contamination.

Since, planning, implementation and commissioning of piped water supply schemes based on a safe water source likely to take time, purely as an interim measure, States/ UTs have been advised to install Community Water Purification Plants (CWPPs) in such habitations, to provide potable water to every household at the rate of 8–10 litre per capita per day (lpcd) to meet their drinking and cooking requirements.

While allocating the funds to States/ UTs in a particular financial year, 10% weightage is given to the population residing in habitations affected by chemical contaminants including Arsenic, as on 31st March of the preceding financial year.

To provide safe drinking water to 27,544 Arsenic/ Fluoride-affected rural habitations in the country including 1,077 Arsenic-affected and 1,043 Fluoride-affected habitations from Bihar State, National Water Quality Sub-Mission (NWQSM) was launched in 2017 as part of National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), which has now been subsumed under Jal Jeevan Mission. As reported by Bihar State, as on 13.07.2021, except 14 Arsenic–affected habitations, safe drinking water has been made available in all these 1,077 Arsenic-affected habitations identified under NWQSM. All these projects were planned to be completed by 31.3.2021 but due to CoVid-19 pandemic and lockdowns/ disruptions, time for completion of ongoing/ approved projects has been extended up to 31.03.2022.

*****

Annexure

Annexure referred to in the reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 69 due for reply on 19.07.2021

Number of habitations reported to have Arsenic contamination in drinking water sources

(As on 13.07.2021)

S.No	District Name	No. of Arsenic-affected habitations	Out of total Arsenic-affected habitations, no. of habitations covered with CWPP for providing safe drinking water at the rate of 8-10 lpcd for drinking And cooking purpose	Remaining
1.	Begusarai	9	2	7
2.	Bhagalpur	6	0	6
3.	Darbhanga	6	0	6
4.	Patna	1	0	1
5.	Vaishali	2	0	2
Total		**24**	2	22

Source: JJM–IMIS