

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO -587
TO BE ANSWERED ON - 12/12/2022

TAP WATER CONNECTIONS IN BIHAR

587 PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:-

- (a) the number of villages certified in the State of Bihar under Har Ghar Jal initiative;
- (b) the number of Har Ghar Jal districts covered in the State of Bihar;
- (c) the number of Village Water and Sanitation Committees in the State of Bihar;
- (d) the total number of tap water connections installed in Bihar since 2019 separate from the State Government's Har GharNal ka Jal initiative; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government to ensure continuous flow of water through the tap connections installed under the Har Ghar Jal in Bihar?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR JALSHAKTI

(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)

(a)& (b) As reported by State Government, as on 08/12/2022, no village has been certified by Gram Sabha as Har Ghar Jal village in the state of Bihar. State Government of Bihar has also reported that, as on 8th December 2022, there are three districts in the State (Arwal, Madhepura & Khagaria) in which all rural households have been provided with tap water connections.

(c) As reported by State Government of Bihar, as per provisions of Bihar Panchayat Raj Act 2006 (as amended) Ward Implementation and Management Committee (WIMC) are constituted in every rural ward of the State. The role of Village Water and Sanitation Committee as mentioned in Jal Jeevan Mission Guidelines comes under the purview of role and duties of WIMC. Therefore, there Village Water and Sanitation Committee (VWSC's) are not being reported by State Government on JJM-IMIS.

(d) This Department maintains the data of HHs provided with tap water connections as reported by States, irrespective of the name of the specific scheme of the State Government under which it is provided. Therefore, the data of tap connections provided under scheme, separate from the specific scheme of State government, is not maintained by this Department. As per information reported by State, since launch of JJM in 2019, a total 156.68 Lakh rural households have been provided with tap water connections in the State of Bihar.

(e) Water supply is a state subject. The responsibility for implementation of drinking water supply schemes, their operations and maintenance and for ensuring supply of water in adequate quantity, prescribed quality on a regular and long-term basis, lies with State Governments. To ensure the continuous flow of water through taps, this department, regularly undertakes functionality assessment of tap connections, through a third party, in all States/ UTs including those in Bihar. Under this assessment, functionality of tap connections is assessed on three parameters i.e. quantity (at least 55 lpcd), quality (as per BIS:10500 standards) and regularity (as per schedule). The findings of the functionality assessment report are shared with States/ UTs for taking corrective action thereon.

Apart from above, this department also undertakes field visits, review meetings wherein progress under Jal Jeevan Mission is reviewed and shortfalls found, if any, are intimated to States for taking corrective steps.
