

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

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. \*112**  
**ANSWERED ON 13.02.2023**

**HEALTH HAZARDS DUE TO CONTAMINATED DRINKING WATER**

**\*112. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA:**

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of persons falling victim to the health hazards caused by drinking water contaminated with higher levels of arsenic, fluoride, iron, salinity and nitrates in the State of Rajasthan, district-wise;
- (b) whether any steps have been taken by Government in this regard and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government proposes to improve the water harvesting infrastructure in order to raise water table in Rajasthan; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) to (d) A Statement of reply is laid on the Table of the House.

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**Statement referred to in the reply to Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. \*112 answered on 13.02.2023.**

Government of India is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) – Har Ghar Jal, since August, 2019, in partnership with States, to make provision of potable tap water supply in adequate quantity, of prescribed quality and on regular & long-term basis to every rural household by 2024. “Water” being a state subject planning, approval and implementation of drinking water supply schemes, lies with state/UT governments.

Since the launch of Jal Jeevan Mission in August 2019, as reported by the State, about 22.04 lakh rural households in Rajasthan have been provided tap water connections. Thus, as on 09.02.2023, provision of tap water supply has been made to 33.78 lakh (31.38%) households out of total 107.64 lakh rural households in Rajasthan. Under JJM, while allocating the funds to States/ UTs, 10% weightage is given to the population residing in habitations affected by chemical contaminants.

Under Jal Jeevan Mission, States/ UTs have been advised to plan and implement piped water supply schemes based on alternative safe water sources for the villages with water quality issues. Since, planning, implementation and commissioning of piped water supply scheme based on a safe water source may take time, purely as an interim measure, States/ UTs have been advised to install community water purification plants (CWPPs) especially in Arsenic and Fluoride affected 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.

As reported by States/UTs, out of the 57,539 quality-affected habitations in the country as on 01.08.2019, provisions for access to safe potable water have so far been done in 36,774 habitations. Further, out of 14,020 Arsenic-affected habitations and 7,996 Fluoride-affected habitations as on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2019, potable water has been made available in all habitations, except 13 habitations for Arsenic and except 16 habitations for Fluoride respectively. As reported by the state government, in the State of Rajasthan, out of 4,177 Fluoride-affected habitations, provisions for access to safe potable water have so far been done in 4161 habitations.

Under Jal Jeevan Mission, as per existing guidelines, Bureau of Indian Standards’ IS:10500 standard have been adopted for ensuring safe drinking water supply. States/UTs have been advised to undertake testing of water quality on a periodic basis, i.e. once in a year for chemical and physical parameters, and twice in a year for bacteriological parameters and take remedial action wherever necessary, to ensure that the water supplied to households is of prescribed quality.

To enable States/ UTs to test water samples for water quality, and for sample collection, reporting, monitoring and surveillance of drinking water sources, an online JJM – Water Quality Management Information System (WQMIS) portal has been developed. As reported by States/UTs on WQMIS, as on 09/02/23, more than 45.33 lakh water samples have been tested in the water testing laboratories and 79.96 lakh water samples using Field Testing Kits, during 2022-23. The State-wise details of water quality test reported through WQMIS are available in public domain on JJM Dashboard and can also be accessed at:

<https://ejalshakti.gov.in/WQMIS/Main/report>

As reported by States/UTs, as on date, there are 2,076 drinking water quality testing laboratories at different levels viz. State, District, sub-division and/ or block level in the country. To encourage water quality testing to ensure potable drinking water supply, States/ UTs have opened water quality testing laboratories to general public for testing of their water samples at a nominal rate.

States/ UTs have been advised to identify and train 5 persons, preferably women, in every village to conduct water quality testing using Field Testing Kits (FTKs)/ bacteriological vials at village level and report the same on the WQMIS portal. So far, as reported by states/UTs, about 18.18 lakh women have been trained for testing water using FTKs.

As reported by the Government of Rajasthan, the district-wise detail of quality-affected habitations is **Annexed**. The details regarding persons having health hazard due to contaminated drinking water is not maintained centrally.

Regarding improvement in Rain Water Harvesting infrastructure, during 2021-22, the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has taken up the project on Groundwater augmentation through artificial recharge in identified water stressed areas of Rajasthan, comprising Jodhpur, Jaisalmer & Sikar districts of Rajasthan. The structures under the said project include check dams, anicuts and recharge shaft with ponds. Further, the Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Groundwater-2020 has been prepared by CGWB in consultation with States/UTs, indicating various suitable structures for the different terrain conditions of the country, including for Rajasthan. As per Master Plan 2020 of Rajasthan an area of 1,13,498.00 sq.km. is identified for Artificial Recharge.

Also, in 2019, Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA) was conducted to bring awareness on various aspects of water conservation and promote rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge in 256 water stressed districts in the country. The JSA was expanded to the whole country in 2021. “Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain” (JSA: CTR) - 2022 campaign, the third in the series of JSAs, was launched on 29.3.2022 to cover all the blocks of all districts across the country including all districts of Rajasthan. As per the information available on the JSA: CTR portal, during the period 29.03.2022 to 07.02.2023, total number of water conservation and rainwater harvesting structures completed/ ongoing in the State in Rajasthan under JSA:CTR 2022 is 0.75 lakh.

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## Annex

Annex as referred in the reply of Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. \*112 to be answered on 13.02.2023.

**District -wise number of water quality-affected habitations in Rajasthan**  
(as on 09.02.2023)

| S. No. | District       | Number of quality-affected habitations |                   |                  |               |                   |                  |
|--------|----------------|--|-------------------|------------------|---------------|-------------------|------------------|
|        |                | Fluoride-affected                      |                   | Arsenic-affected | Iron-affected | Salinity-affected | Nitrate-affected |
|        |                | Total No.                              | Covered with CWPP |                  |               |                   |                  |
| 1.     | Alwar          | 65                                     | 65                | -                | -             | 30                | 1                |
| 2.     | Banswara       | 11                                     | -                 | -                | -             | 1                 | 5                |
| 3.     | Baran          | -                                      | -                 | -                | -             | 2                 | 1                |
| 4.     | Barmer         | 9                                      | 9                 | -                | -             | 8,558             | 4                |
| 5.     | Bharatpur      | -                                      | -                 | -                | -             | 429               | 6                |
| 6.     | Bhilwara       | 1                                      | 1                 | -                | -             | 7                 | 9                |
| 7.     | Bikaner        | 1                                      | 1                 | -                | -             | 14                | 83               |
| 8.     | Bundi          | -                                      | -                 | -                | -             | 37                | 22               |
| 9.     | Chittaurgarh   | 1                                      | 1                 | -                | 1             | 36                | 34               |
| 10.    | Dausa          | 14                                     | 10                | -                | -             | 6                 | 18               |
| 11.    | Dhaulpur       | -                                      | -                 | -                | -             | 1                 | -                |
| 12.    | Dungarpur      | -                                      | -                 | -                | -             | 1                 | 17               |
| 13.    | Hanumangarh    | -                                      | -                 | -                | -             | 3                 | -                |
| 14.    | Jaipur         | -                                      | -                 | -                | -             | 16                | 3                |
| 15.    | Jaisalmer      | 28                                     | 28                | -                | 1             | 2                 | 15               |
| 16.    | Jhunjhunun     | 4                                      | 4                 | -                | -             | 4                 | 4                |
| 17.    | Jodhpur        | 22                                     | 22                | -                | -             | 504               | 55               |
| 18.    | Karauli        | -                                      | -                 | -                | -             | 19                | 7                |
| 19.    | Kota           | -                                      | -                 | -                | 2             | 16                | 9                |
| 20.    | Nagaur         | -                                      | -                 | -                | -             | 2                 | 7                |
| 21.    | Pali           | 10                                     | 9                 | -                | -             | 4                 | 23               |
| 22.    | Pratapgarh     | -                                      | -                 | -                | -             | 1                 | 103              |
| 23.    | Rajsamand      | -                                      | -                 | -                | -             | 2                 | 10               |
| 24.    | Sawai Madhopur | -                                      | -                 | -                | -             | 9                 | 3                |
| 25.    | Sikar          | 2                                      | 2                 | -                | -             | 7                 | 9                |
| 26.    | Udaipur        | -                                      | -                 | -                | -             | 39                | 13               |

Source: JJM-IMIS

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