

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 91
ANSWERED ON 22/07/2024

HAR GHAR NAL SE JAL SCHEME

91. SMT. PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) per centage of households provided with tap water connections under the "Har Ghar Nal Se Jal" scheme till now;
- (b) measures taken to ensure the quality and reliability of the water provided through the scheme;
- (c) the plan of Government to address regional disparities in the implementation of the scheme, particularly in remote and underserved areas;
- (d) the total expenditure on the "Har Ghar Nal Se Jal" scheme so far, and its comparison with the allocated budget; and
- (e) the primary challenges faced in implementing the scheme, and the steps Government is taking to overcome them?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI
(SHRI V. SOMANNA)

(a) Since August 2019, Government of India in partnership with States is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) – Har Ghar Jal to make provision of potable water to every rural household of the country, through functional tap water connection i.e. at a service level of 55 litre per capita per day (lpcd), of prescribed quality (BIS:10500), on regular and long-term basis.

At the start of Jal Jeevan Mission in August 2019, only 3.23 Crore (16.8%) rural households were reported to have tap water connections. So far, as reported by States/ UTs as on 16.07.2024, around 11.75 Crore additional rural households have been provided with tap water connections under JJM. Thus, as on 16.07.2024, out of 19.32 Crore rural households in the country, around 14.98 Crore (77.55%) households are reported to have tap water supply in their homes.

(b) Water being a State subject, States/ UTs have been advised to undertake testing of water quality on a periodic basis and take remedial action wherever necessary, to ensure that the water supplied to households is of prescribed quality.

Further, the States/ UTs have been advised to identify and train 5 persons preferably women from every village to conduct water quality tests using FTKs/ bacteriological vials at village level and report the same on the WQMIS portal. Moreover, 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. 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.

In addition, to ensure long term sustainability of infrastructure created, quality material and quality construction is being ensured through third party inspection before making payment. Moreover, measurement and monitoring of water supply in villages through sensor-based IoT solution, linking AADHAR of the head of household for targeted delivery subject to statutory provisions, geo-tagging of assets created, etc. are also provisioned under JJM.

Further, to bring transparency and effective monitoring, an online ‘JJM dashboard’ & mobile App has been created, which provides State/ UT, district, and village-wise progress as well as status of provision of tap water supply to rural homes.

(c) Under JJM, the responsibility of planning, approval, implementation, operation, and maintenance of drinking water supply schemes lies with respective States/ UTs. Government of India supports the States by providing technical and financial assistance. Following the principle of ‘universal coverage’ and ‘no one is left out’, provision of tap water supply is envisaged for every rural household, including those in remote and underserved areas and priority is given for provision of tap water supply in water quality affected habitations, desert and drought-prone areas, SC/ ST villages, Aspirational & JE - AES affected districts, etc.

In addition, for prioritizing the coverage of tap water connection in remote & hilly area, 30% weightage is assigned for difficult terrains and 10% weightage is assigned for population residing in SC/ ST areas, while allocating the fund.

(d) Details of Central fund allocated, fund drawn and utilization reported by the States/ UTs under Jal Jeevan Mission till 2023-24 and in 2024-25 (as on 16.07.2024) is as under

(Amount in Rs. Crore)

Year	Central			Expenditure under State share	Centre + State Expenditure
	Fund allocated	Fund drawn by States	Reported utilization		
2019-20	10,000.66	9,951.81	5,998.89	4,066.88	10,065.77
2020-21	11,000.00	10,917.86	12,542.03	7,803.36	20,345.39
2021-22	45,011.00	40,009.77	25,453.93	19,141.98	44,595.91
2022-23	55,000.00	54,742.30	50,780.01	40,223.99	91,004.00
2023-24	70,000.00	69,885.01	82,208.50	69,093.08	1,51,301.58
Total till 2023-24	1,91,011.66	1,85,506.75	1,76,983.36	1,40,329.29	3,17,312.65
2024-25	70,162.90	11,154.12	9,718.29	6,780.96	16,499.25

Source: JJM-IMIS

(e) States have informed that lack of dependable drinking water sources in water-stressed, drought prone and desert areas, presence of geo-genic contaminants in ground water, uneven geographical terrain, scattered rural habitations, delay in release of the matching State share in

some States, lack of technical capacity with implementing agencies, Gram Panchayats and local communities to plan, manage, operate & maintain the water supply schemes, rising price of raw materials, delay in obtaining statutory/ other clearances, etc. are a few of problems being faced in the implementation of the Mission.

To address the challenges holistically and overcome these, Government of India has taken a number of steps, *inter alia* including implementation of Special Assistance to States for Capital Expenditure through M/o Finance for financial assistance as 50-year interest free loan for capital investment projects; nomination of a nodal officer in the Department for coordinating with Central nodal Ministries/ Departments/ agencies to facilitate the States in obtaining Statutory/ other clearances; setting up of State Programme Management Units (SPMUs) and District Programme Management Units (DPMUs) and implementation of “*Nal Jal Mitra Programme*” for ensuring availability of skilled local persons at village level to bridge the gap in availability of technical skill sets. Regular review meetings, conferences, deployment of multi-discipline teams are also being done to handhold States/ UTs.

Under the Mission, States have also been advised for source recharging, viz. dedicated bore well recharge structures, rainwater harvesting, rejuvenation of existing water bodies, reuse of greywater, etc., in convergence with other schemes such as MGNREGS, Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP), 15th Finance Commission tied grants to RLBs/ PRIs, State schemes, CSR funds, etc.

Further, Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain (JSA: CTR) campaign aiming to encourage water conservation at grass-root levels with people's participation was launched in 2019 in 256 water stressed districts of the country. Moreover, recognizing the importance of sustainable water management especially for drinking water availability, JSA-CTR was implemented with the theme “Source Sustainability for Drinking Water” in 2023. Similarly, in 2024, JSA is being implemented with the theme "Nari Shakti se Jal Shakti" from 09.03.2024 to 30.11.2024 emphasizing the pivotal role played by women in the field of water conservation.
