

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI  
DEPARTMENT OF DRINKING WATER & SANITATION  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2305**  
ANSWERED ON 16/12/2024

**IRREGULARITY IN WATER SUPPLY**

2305. SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the 8 per cent of households receive water only once a week even today, the reasons therefor;
- (b) by when is Government intending to close this gap; and
- (c) the steps Government is taking to increase the average duration of water supply in households from 3hrs?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (c) Since August, 2019, Government of India is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) 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 in the country.

Water is a state subject. The responsibility of planning, approval, implementation, operation, and maintenance (O&M) of drinking water supply schemes lies with State/UT Governments. The Government of India supports the States by providing technical and financial assistance.

Under JJM, this department regularly conducts 'Functionality Assessment of tap connections' through an independent 3<sup>rd</sup> party agency. Under the assessment exercise, the functionality of tap connection is assessed on three parameters i.e. quantity (55 lpcd or more), quality and regularity i.e. water supply for all 12 months in a year as per pre-decided schedule. As per findings of the last such assessment conducted in 2022, nationally, a total of 3.01 Lakhs households (HHs) from 13,299 villages across the country were randomly surveyed. Out of these HHs, tap connections were found working in 86% HHs out of which, 85% HHs were found receiving drinking water in adequate quantity, 87% of HHs were supplied water of prescribed quality and 80% HHs were found receiving full regular water supply.

In the assessment report it was also found that close to three-fourths of the HHs (74 percent) received water all 7 days a week. Out of the remaining 26 percent, 4 percent received water for 5-6 days in a week, 14 percent received at least 3-4 days in a week, and the balance 8 percent received water only once a week. The average duration per day supply has been found to be

three hours. Four out of five (80 percent) households reported that their daily requirements of water are being met by the HH tap connections.

The primary reasons reported by States for low service delivery are 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, on-going augmentation work in the scheme, lack of technical capacity of Gram Panchayats and local communities operate & maintain the water supply schemes etc.

To improve the water service delivery to the households and to take corrective measures, the reports of the functionality assessment survey are shared with States/ UTs. Besides, during review meetings/ workshops, States/ UTs are requested to take measures to improve the functionality of the schemes. During field visits also, the functionality of the schemes are reviewed and observations are shared with States/ UTs accordingly.

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