

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

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. 153**  
ANSWERED ON 04/08/2025

**COLLAPSING OF NEWLY BUILT WATER TANKS**

**\* 153. SHRI JAVED ALI KHAN:**

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) several instances of collapsing or bursting of newly built water tanks during trials or soon after commissioning have been reported in the country during the last two years and the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and year-wise, along with district-wise details in case of the State of Uttar Pradesh;

(c) whether Government has inquired into inferior quality water tanks built under JJM;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI  
(SHRI C R PATIL)

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 153 FOR REPLY ON 04.08.2025**

(a) and (b) Since August 2019, Government of India in partnership with States/UTs 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.

Drinking Water being a State subject, the responsibility of planning, approval, implementation, operation, and maintenance of drinking water supply schemes/ works, including those under the Jal Jeevan Mission, lies with State/UT Governments. The Government of India supports the States by providing technical and financial assistance.

Thus, details of individual projects/schemes which inter-alia include collapse or bursting of newly constructed water tanks during testing or soon after commissioning of rural water supply projects are maintained at the State Government level. According to the information provided by the State/UTs, such incidents have not occurred in any state other than four states namely Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan. The said states have informed that some incidents have occurred in rural areas in the last two years and the current year. The State-wise, year-wise along with district-wise details are given below:

State	Year	District
Uttar Pradesh	2023	Balrampur
Uttar Pradesh	2024	Sitapur
Uttar Pradesh	2025	Kanpur Nagar
Uttar Pradesh	2025	Lakhimpur Kheri
Uttar Pradesh	2025	Sitapur
Jharkhand	2024	Palamu
Jharkhand	2024	Koderma
Madhya Pradesh	2024	Rewa
Rajasthan	2025	Churu

(c) to (e) To ensure the quality of the work under the operational guideline for the implementation of the JJM, third party inspection and certification before payment is mandatory. For the purpose, States/UTs have been empowered to empanel third party inspection agencies (TPIA) to check the quality of work executed by the agencies, quality of materials used for construction and quality of machinery installed in each of the scheme.

The criteria for selection and Terms of References (ToR) of TPIAs to be empanelled by the States/UTs is laid down in JJM Guidelines. The details of quality checks done by TPIAs are maintained at State Level. The supply of the material to be used in the scheme is done after inspection through factory visit conducted by these agencies. Other building and steel related materials are also inspected before its use.

Provisions have been made to use such materials only after supply meeting the standards. The grievances/ complaints regarding implementation of JJM in States including inferior quality of work, as and when received in Ministry of Jal Shakti are forwarded to States for taking corrective measures.

It is stated that State of Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan have informed that a detailed technical enquiry has been conducted by the technical team in each case of collapsing of water tanks.

Uttar Pradesh Government has informed that in four cases, quality of Zinc Alume Sheets, nut and bolts got tested from IIT Kanpur, were found in general satisfactory except some parameters in case of Balrampur. The main reasons for collapsing of water tanks were improper fusing of zinc alume sheets, improper jointing of these sheets at outlet and washout pipe locations, non-compliance of the prescribed water filling protocol during the hydro testing of the tank, substandard construction material (Concrete) used in staging work and structural failure.

State of Uttar Pradesh has taken actions as imposition of penalty along with removal of the concerned engineers of the construction agency and third-party agency & action against officials including Executive Engineers and Assistant Engineers of Jal Nigam. All the contractors have been directed to reconstruct the OHT at their own cost.

Similarly, State of Jharkhand has informed that the main reason for collapsing of water tanks was poor workmanship. And action for blacklisting of the agency & rescinding of work have been taken. Further, action has been taken against the officials including the Executive Engineers.

Further, State of Madhya Pradesh has informed that the main reasons for collapsing of water tank in Rewa is loose compacted compressible cohesive clayey soil and non-availability of RAAFT Foundation for reducing the structure failure. However, State has taken action against the officials. Also, the contractor has proposed to construct the tank for which no additional payment will be made by the State Government.

State of Rajasthan has informed that the reason for the collapse of water tank is failure of columns in compression /buckling. In this regard, enquiry committee has recommended that case may be referred to a reputed institute to examine correctness of approved design/drawing to assess the quality of the executed work and to determine the actual cause of collapse of this OHSR. Further action against concerned official has been initiated by the State.

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