

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2469
ANSWERED ON 11/08/2025

ACHIEVEMENTS OF SIGNIFICANT MILESTONES UNDER THE JJM

2469. SHRI BABUBHAI JESANGBHAI DESAI:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has achieved significant milestones under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in ensuring tap water connections to rural households;
- (b) the number of households covered since the launch of the mission in 2019;
- (c) the measures taken to ensure sustainable groundwater management and rainwater harvesting in the country particularly in the State of Gujarat; and
- (d) whether there are plans to strengthen convergence with other water conservation schemes to ensure long-term water security across drought-prone districts?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) 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, including those in the State of Gujarat and drought-prone districts, through functional tap water connection.

At the time of announcement of JJM, 3.23 Crore (17%) rural households were reported to have tap water connections. So far, as reported by States/ UTs as on 07.08.2025, around 12.45 Crore additional rural households have been provided with tap water connections. Thus, as on 07.08.2025, out of 19.36 Crore rural households, more than 15.68 Crore (81%) households are reported to have tap water supply in their homes.

(c) & (d) Drinking Water being a State subject, and therefore, it is States, who plan, design, approve and implement drinking water supply schemes. Government of India supplements the efforts of the States by providing technical and financial assistance.

Under JJM, the water sources *inter alia* including groundwater (open well, borewell, tube well, handpumps, etc.), ancient & traditional surface water (river, reservoir, lake, pond, springs, etc.) and rain water stored in small tanks are being used as sources for drinking water supply schemes. States have been advised for source recharging, viz. dedicated bore well recharge

structures, rainwater recharge, rejuvenation of existing water bodies, reuse of greywater, etc., in convergence with other schemes such as MGNREGS, Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP), Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin), 15th Finance Commission tied grants to Rural Local Bodies/ Panchayati Raj Institutes, State schemes, CSR funds, etc.

Moreover, for villages in water-scarce areas, in order to save the precious fresh water, States are also being encouraged to plan new water supply scheme with dual piped water supply system, i.e. supply of fresh water in one and treated grey/ waste water in another pipe for non-potable/ gardening/ toilet flushing use. Moreover, the households in these areas are being encouraged to use the faucet aerators that save a significant amount of water, in multiple taps they may be using inside their house.

Further, Jal Shakti Abhiyan campaign, launched in August 2019 for 256 water stressed districts of the country, encouraged water conservation at grass-root levels with people's participation. In 2021, "Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain" (JSA: CTR) with the theme "Catch the Rain – Where it Falls When it Falls" was launched to cover all the blocks of all districts (rural as well as urban areas) across the country. JSA: CTR has become an annual feature since 2021. Moreover, aiming to ensure conservation of every drop of water through collective efforts, following a whole-of-society and whole-of-government approach, "Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari" (JSJB) initiative has also been taken up as part of the JSA: CTR campaign.

Moreover, as informed by the Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (DoWR, RD & GR), initiatives such as the National Aquifer Mapping (NAQUIM) and the Master Plan for Artificial Recharge (2020) encourage the implementation of rainwater harvesting structures. Additionally, the Central Ground Water Authority regulates groundwater usage and mandates rainwater harvesting in critical zones to ensure sustainable water management. National Water Policy has been formulated by Department of Water Resources, RD & GR, *inter-alia* advocates rainwater harvesting and conservation of water and highlights the need for augmenting the availability of water through direct use of rainfall. DoWR, RD & GR along with the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) and State Governments, conducts annual assessments of India's dynamic groundwater resources.

CGWB has prepared a Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Groundwater- 2020 in consultation with States/UTs which is a macro level plan indicating various structures for the different terrain conditions of the country including State of Gujarat. The Master Plan envisages construction of about 13 lakh Rain water harvesting and artificial recharge structures in the state of Gujarat which includes check dams, roof-top rain water harvesting structures, Percolation tanks, recharge shaft and recharge through defunct tube-wells.

In addition, various initiatives have been launched to promote water conservation and management. The important steps taken by the Central Government for sustainable ground water management across the country, including in the State of Gujarat, can be seen at web-link

<https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s3a70dc40477bc2adceef4d2c90f47eb82/uploads/2024/07/20240716706354487.pdf>.
