

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2787
ANSWERED ON 18/08/2025

**JAL JEEVAN MISSION AND WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP IN WATER
MANAGEMENT**

2787. SMT. GEETA ALIAS CHANDRAPRABHA:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the national progress of the Jal Jeevan Mission's Har Ghar Jal target, including community participation and women's leadership;
- (b) the achievement of universal coverage in the State of Uttar Pradesh, especially the installation of piped water supply systems, community engagement in water management, and measures to ensure water quality and sustainability in rural and peri-urban areas; and
- (c) the achievement of Har Ghar Jal in all 848 villages of Auraiya, and the training of women-led village water committees to operate and maintain filtration units under Margdarshika guidelines for community participation?

ANSWER

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

(a) Since August 2019, Government of India in partnership with States/UTs, is implementing centrally sponsored scheme Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) – Har Ghar Jal to make provision of tap water supply to every rural household in all villages across the country.

Drinking Water being a State subject, States/UTs plan, design, approve and implement drinking water supply schemes. Government of India supplements the efforts of the States/UTs by providing technical and financial assistance.

At the start of the mission, only 3.23 crore (16.71%) rural households were reported to have tap water connections. With concerted efforts from both Centre and States/UTs under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) – Har Ghar Jal around 12.45 crore additional rural households have been reported to have been provided with tap water connections. Thus, as on 13.08.2025, out of 19.36 crore rural households in the country, more than 15.68 crore (81.01%) households are reported to have tap water supply in their homes.

Since its launch, Jal Jeevan Mission is being implemented as a decentralized, demand-driven and community-managed programme, wherein the Gram Panchayat and/ or its sub-committee/

user group i.e. Village Water & Sanitation Committee (VWSC)/ Pani Samiti are being empowered to plan, implement, manage, operate and maintain in-village water supply system to provide regular and assured tap water supply in rural households. Further, NGOs/ Community Based Organizations (CBOs)/ Self Help Groups (SHGs)/ Voluntary Organizations (VOs), etc. are also being empanelled as Implementation Support Agencies (ISAs) to handhold and train VWSCs/ Pani Samitis in planning, mobilizing and engaging communities, disseminating information and encouraging women participation for ensuring long-term maintenance of the water supply infrastructure. The total number of 5,31,393 VWSC/ Pani Samiti/ Village Council has been constituted across the country under Jal Jeevan Mission. Further, 5,21,246 Village Action Plans (VAPs) have been prepared with active community involvement.

In order to empower the communities to monitor the water quality, State/ UTs have also 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. Over 24.80 lakh women have been trained under the Mission in water quality testing, enhancing community-led monitoring. Furthermore, JJM has freed up women's time by providing tap water access, allowing them to participate in economic, educational, and social activities.

(b) State of Uttar Pradesh has informed that significant progress has been made since the launch of the programme in 2019. At that time, only 1.93% of rural households in Uttar Pradesh had access to piped water supply. As on date, this figure has risen to over 90.34%, with more than 2.41 crore rural households receiving Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTCs).

Uttar Pradesh has institutionalized participation through the formation of over 96,652 Village Water and Sanitation Committees (VWSCs) in Gram Panchayats, each with 50% mandatory representation of women. Further, 96,756 Village Action Plans (VAPs) have been prepared with active community involvement.

UP Jal Nigam (Rural) also operates 81 labs (75 district, 5 mobile and 1 state-level) for regular testing in for chemical and bacterial parameters in all the districts. All the laboratories are NABL accredited. To ensure water quality regular test through FTK is being done in every village and the result are being uploaded on WQMIS Portal by all trained FTK Women.

To ensure water quality, Uttar Pradesh has developed a decentralized surveillance system involving over 5.53 lakh trained rural women who use Field Test Kits (FTKs) to test water quality at the village level.

To ensure the long-term sustainability of water supply systems, the state has constructed and geo-tagged 24,586 groundwater recharge structures, including check dams, soak pits, and recharge shafts. Furthermore, various source sustainability measures including greywater management, rainwater harvesting, restoration of water bodies to enhance their storage capacity, and other related interventions are being implemented by various departments such Groundwater Department, Minor Irrigation Department, Rural Development Department, Panchayati Raj Department, and Forest Department through various initiatives. Moreover, over 7.56 lakh rural youth have been trained in essential technical trades such as plumbing, pump operation, masonry, and electrical maintenance to support localised operation and maintenance of schemes.

(c) State of Uttar Pradesh has informed that as far as the achievement of Har Ghar Jal in Auraiya district is concerned, 255 villages have been certified as Har Ghar Jal out of a total of 770 villages and the coverage has been verified by the community itself through a participatory validation process. Further details may be seen at JJM DASHBOARD (<https://ejalshakti.gov.in>).

The total number of 769 Village Water and Sanitation Committees (VWSCs) in Auraiya district are led by women, with around 50% female representation in each committee, reflecting their central role in local water governance. As per the agreement, all the Water Supply Schemes are to be operated and maintained by the executing firm for 10 years. However, 954 Plumber, 1430 Mason, 954 Fitter, 954 Pump Operator, 954 Electrician, 954 Motor Mechanics have been trained in Auriya for Operation and Maintenance of water supply schemes and 3846 FTK Women have been trained in Auraiya.
