

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 896
ANSWERED ON 28/07/2025

FLUORIDE IN DRINKING WATER

896. SMT. RAJANI ASHOKRAO PATIL:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of rural habitations in the country affected by excess Fluoride in drinking water as of June 2025;
- (b) the states most severely affected by this issue;
- (c) the steps taken under Jal Jeevan Mission to provide safe alternative water sources in these areas;
- (d) whether any health impact assessment has been conducted in high-risk zones; and
- (e) whether separate fund allocations have been made for Fluoride-affected regions?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e) The Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) – Har Ghar Jal, was launched in August, 2019, in partnership with States/ UTs to make provision of potable tap water supply in adequate quantity, of prescribed quality and on regular & long-term basis to rural households. Under the Jal Jeevan Mission, as per existing guidelines, Bureau of Indian Standards' BIS:10500 standards are adopted as benchmark for quality of water being supplied through the piped water supply schemes. Drinking Water being a State subject, the responsibility of Planning, Approval, Implementation, Operation & Maintenance of drinking water supply schemes, including those under the Jal Jeevan Mission, is vested with State/UT Governments. The Government of India supports the States by providing technical and financial assistance.

Under JJM, while planning water supply schemes to provide tap water supply to households, priority is given to habitations affected by chemical contaminants including Fluoride. States/ UTs have been advised to plan and implement piped water supply schemes based on alternative safe water sources for the villages reported with water quality issues. Since launch of Jal Jeevan Mission, the number of Fluoride affected habitations has reduced over the years. The year-wise details of fluoride affected habitations reported by the States/UTs is as follows:

No. of Fluoride affected habitations as on							
01.04.2019	01.04.2020	01.04.2021	01.04.2022	01.04.2023	01.04.2024	01.04.2025	23.07.2025
7,996	5,796	1,021	638	393	348	250	248

Source: JJM-IMIS

Under JJM, States/ UTs have also been advised to install community water purification plants (CWPPs) especially in Arsenic and Fluoride affected habitations to provide potable water to every household to meet their drinking and cooking requirements till the commissioning of piped water supply schemes compliant to JJM standards. As reported by States/ UTs on JJM-IMIS as on date, there are 248 Fluoride affected rural habitations in the country where the piped water supply schemes compliant to JJM standards are yet to be commissioned. However, all these 248 habitations have been provided with safe drinking water for drinking and cooking purpose to the tune of 8-10 litres per person per day through Community water purification plants/ Individual Household Purifiers (CWPPs/ IHPs). Thus, all habitations in rural area of the country are provided safe drinking water free from Fluoride contamination. State-wise details of Fluoride affected habitations and CWPP/IHP installed in such habitations are at **annex-I**.

Under JJM the funds are not released separately for specific contamination affected habitations in drinking water such as those by Fluoride. The State/ UT-wise details of funds allocated, released, and utilized under JJM for provision of safe and potable water through taps to households including those affected by Fluoride since 2019-20 are at **Annex-II**.

The Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has informed that the Government of India is implementing the National Programme for Prevention and Control of Fluorosis (NPPCF) to tackle the issue of Fluorosis, which is a disease caused by the ingestion of food and water containing excessive levels of Fluoride. As on June, 2025, NPPCF is being implemented in 163 districts across 19 States/UT and is being expanded in a phased manner. Through the NPPCF Programme, support is being provided at the District level for:

- i.) Strengthening manpower in endemic districts by providing for Consultant, Laboratory Technician and Field Investigator;
- ii.) Purchase of equipment for the lab including an Ion meter for water and urinary analysis of fluoride levels;
- iii.) Training of medical and paramedical workers at various levels;
- iv.) Health Education and Publicity; and
- v.) Supplementation with vitamins and minerals and treatment including reconstructive surgery and rehabilitation.

Annex-I referred to in reply to Rajya Sabha unstarred Question No. 896 for reply on 28.07.2025

State-wise number of Fluoride affected habitations and CWPP/IHP installed
(as on 23.07.2025)

S. No.	State	Number of Fluoride affected habitations	Covered with CWPP
1.	Odisha	14	14
2.	Punjab	119	119
3.	Rajasthan	78	78
4.	West Bengal	37	37
Total		248	248

Source: JJM-IMIS

Annex-II referred to in reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 896 for reply on 28.07.2025

Jal Jeevan Mission: Central fund allocated, drawn and reported utilization since 2019-20
(as on date 23.07.2025)

(Amount in Rs. Crore)

Financial Year	Central Share				State Share Expenditure
	Opening Balance	Allocated Funds	Released Amount	Expenditure	
2019-20	2,436.37	11,139.21	9,951.81	5,983.49	4090.79
2020-21	6,447.36	23,033.02	10,917.86	12,544.51	7,905.45
2021-22	4,825.92	92,308.77	40,009.77	25,326.67	18,226.18
2022-23	19,510.05	1,00,789.77	54,742.30	50,667.81	40,147.74
2023-24	23,584.58	1,32,936.83	69,885.01	82,295.58	69,219.37
2024-25	11,173.97	69,926.68	22,540.22	29,838.41	60,167.78
2025-26	3,875.74	-	-	7.59	3,063.52

Source: JJM-IMIS