

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

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 12
ANSWERED ON 01/12/2025

DRINKING WATER SAFETY AND ARSENIC MITIGATION IN BIHAR

*12. SHRI AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of *Jal Shakti* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has identified additional Arsenic- and Fluoride-affected blocks in the State of Bihar during 2024–25;
- (b) the funds allocated and utilised under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) for rural water supply schemes in Patna, Nalanda, and Gaya districts; and
- (c) the steps that are being taken to ensure real-time water-quality monitoring and community-level testing facilities in affected villages?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI
(SHRI C R PATIL)

- (a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (c) of Rajya Sabha Starred question no. 12 answered on 01/12/2025 regarding “Drinking Water Safety and Arsenic Mitigation in Bihar” asked by Shri Akhilesh Prasad Singh

(a) Under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), a web based JJM- Integrated Management Information System (JJM-IMIS) has been developed for online reporting of water quality monitoring and surveillance, where States/UTs report the status of habitations that have contamination in their drinking water sources including Arsenic and Fluoride. As reported by State of Bihar on JJM-IMIS, as on date, all habitations in rural area of the State are provided safe drinking water free from Arsenic and Fluoride contamination.

(b) Under JJM, funds are released directly to the States/ UTs and their district-wise fund details are not maintained at the Government of India level. Since 2019-20, the total Central share fund released under JJM for the State of Bihar is Rs. 770.95 crore. The State Government of Bihar has not drawn JJM funds from 2021-22 onwards.

(c) To enable the States/ UTs for online reporting of water quality monitoring and surveillance including test reports of water samples for water quality, sample collection etc. for drinking water, an online JJM – Water Quality Management Information System (WQMIS) portal has also been developed. The State-wise details of water quality test reported through WQMIS are available in public domain and can be accessed at: <https://ejalshakti.gov.in/WQMIS/Main/report>

Further, a ‘Citizen Corner’ was developed on the JJM Dashboard which includes display of village level water quality test results in the public domain to further create awareness and build confidence among people about the quality of water supplies through the PWS in rural areas. To encourage water quality testing to ensure potable drinking water supply, States/ UTs have opened water quality testing laboratories to general public for testing of their water samples at a nominal rate and the details can be accessed from Citizen Corner at <https://ejalshakti.gov.in/jjmreport/JJMIndia.aspx>
