

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI
DEPARTMENT OF DRINKING WATER & SANITATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. – 903
ANSWERED ON 08/12/2025

ACTION AGAINST DEFAULTING CONTRACTOR ENGAGED IN JJM

903. SHRI ASHOKRAO SHANKARRAO CHAVAN:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Government has sought/asked to share the reports from various States Governments and Union Territories regarding the action taken/fine imposed against defaulting contractors and third-party agencies engaged in implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether any specific guidelines have been issued by the Centre to ensure accountability and transparency in the functioning of such contractors and agencies engaged under Jal Jeevan Mission and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) steps being taken by Government to strengthen monitoring mechanisms and to prevent recurrence of such irregularities in future?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI V. SOMANNA)

- (a) and (b) Yes. As per the data reported by 32 States/ UTs, a total of 17,036 complaints have been received by States/ UTs from different sources such as media reports, suo-moto cognizance, references from public representatives, citizens, grievance portal, etc. regarding financial irregularities and poor quality of works under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM). As reported by the States/ UTs, action has been taken against 621 Departmental Officials, 969 contractors, and 153 Third Party Inspection Agencies (TPIAs). The State-wise details of complaints received by them and action taken against officials, contractors and third-party agencies are annexed.
- (c) Drinking water is a state subject and, therefore, the primary responsibility for planning, implementation, and operation & maintenance (O&M) of piped water supply schemes to provide tap water to rural households, lies with the respective State/UT Government. A detailed operational guideline for the implementation of JJM have been shared with States/ UTs to facilitate effective planning and implementation of JJM. As per extant guidelines, State Level Scheme Sanctioning Committee (SLSSC), headed by Chief Secretary/ Addl. Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary/ Secretary in-charge of Public Health Engineering (PHE)/ Rural Water

Supply (RWS) Department, approves the schemes/ projects taken up under JJM. District Water & Sanitation Mission (DWSM) provides administrative approval of in-village water supply schemes/projects at district level as per powers devolved by SWSM. Thereafter, SWSM/ PHED/ RWS Department of respective State/UT Governments gets the work implemented through contractors after following due process of tendering as per their respective procurement rules.

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.

- (d) To ensure the successful implementation of JJM, Government of India has been regularly reviewing the implementation with respective state governments through review meetings and visits of multi-disciplinary teams to highlight the areas to strengthen implementation and monitoring for expeditious implementation of the mission. Under JJM, technology is utilized to ensure transparency and accountability. Physical and financial progress is reported on JJM– Integrated Management Information Systems (IMIS) and all tap water connections provided, are to be linked with Aadhar number of the head of the household. Provisions have also been made for geo-tagging of assets created under the JJM.

Several initiatives have been undertaken to further strengthen the monitoring mechanism under JJM which inter-alia includes:

- i.) Since April 2025, States have been conducting monthly inspections of four schemes each, randomly assigned by the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS), to strengthen field-level oversight. State-level teams carry out inspections to assess the quality of construction, adherence to timelines, availability of services, and resolution of issues.
- ii.) Ground verification has been enhanced by strengthening the monitoring framework for National WASH Experts (NWEs) through a revised and comprehensive checklist emphasizing quality of execution, along with a revised Terms of Reference (ToR) for TPIs to ensure effective supervision.
- iii.) IT monitoring architecture has also been expanded: apart from State-level access, District Water and Sanitation Mission (DWSM) officials and Gram Panchayat-level functionaries are being onboarded onto the IMIS, enabling decentralized monitoring and improved grassroots-level oversight.
- iv.) States/ UTs have been repeatedly advised to adopt a zero-tolerance approach toward any financial, procedural, or quality-related violations. All States/ UTs have been advised to ensure that every complaint is duly examined, field verification is carried out promptly, and all required disciplinary, contractual, and legal actions are taken without exception to uphold transparency and accountability of the mission.

Annex referred in the reply to part (b) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 903 answered on 08.12.2025

Sr.no.	State/ UT	Total no. of complaints	No. of Dept. officials against whom action taken	No. of contractors against whom action has been taken	No. of TPIA against whom action has been taken
1	A & N Islands	0	0	0	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	0	0
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0
4	Assam	1,236	17	4	3
5	Bihar	0	0	0	0
6	Chhattisgarh	283	2	5	1
7	DD&DNH	0	0	0	0
8	Goa	0	0	0	0
9	Gujarat	1	12	112	0
10	Haryana	4	11	0	0
11	Himachal Pradesh	2	0	0	0
12	Jharkhand	8	26	2	3
13	Karnataka	169	9	99	1
14	Kerala	25	1	1	0
15	Ladakh	1	1	0	0
16	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0
17	Madhya Pradesh	37	151	9	0
18	Maharashtra	154	1	5	0
19	Manipur	19	4	39	0
20	Meghalaya	8	3	0	0
21	Mizoram	1	0	0	0
22	Odisha	4	0	1	0
23	Puducherry	0	0	0	0
24	Punjab	3	2	0	0
25	Rajasthan	183	170	53	2
26	Sikkim	0	0	0	0
27	Tamil Nadu	45	5	2	0
28	Telangana	0	0	0	0
29	Tripura	376	0	376	0
30	Uttar Pradesh	14,264	171	119	143
31	Uttarakhand	40	35	0	0
32	West Bengal	173	0	142	0
Total		17,036	621	969	153