

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

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *245
ANSWERED ON 16/03/2026

SURVEYS CONDUCTED UNDER JJM USING GOOGLE IMAGES

*245. DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether Government is aware that surveys under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) have been conducted using Google images instead of door-to-door survey and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) Whether these surveys have resulted in a large number of households being left out, incorrect data being reported and water connections being provided without having concern for water supply;
- (c) If so, the details thereof; and
- (d) The corrective action taken by Government in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI
(SHRI C R PATIL)

- (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply of Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 245 answered on 16/03/2026.

(a) to (d) The Government of India is driving a comprehensive transformation of the nation's water landscape through its flagship initiative, the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) – Har Ghar Jal. Since August 2019, Government of India, in partnership with States, is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)-Har Ghar Jal to enable every rural household in the country, to have assured potable water through tap connection.

Water being a State subject, the responsibility of planning, approval, implementation, operation, and maintenance of drinking water supply schemes/ works, including those under the Jal Jeevan Mission, lies with State/UT Governments. The Government of India supports the States by providing technical and financial assistance only. If any cases of Google images being used for survey or any such deviations from procedure are reported, necessary action is taken by States as per extant rules.

Further, to enhance transparency and to ensure technically sound implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission and also to ensure ground truthing of assets, the Sujalam Bharat database is a digital platform designed for States / UTs to systematically map, geotag, and monitor rural water supply assets. It enables field-level data capture and validation for bulk water, out-village, and in-village components, generating unique Sujal Gaon IDs. As a foundational Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI), it creates a GIS-based digital asset registry, linking infrastructure components to ensure a seamless, transparent, and data-driven supply chain from source to household.

As per the Operational Guidelines of 'Jal Jeevan Mission', it is the responsibility of National Jal Jeevan Mission (NJJM) to carry out regular functionality assessment, evaluation and impact assessment. For the purpose, NJJM selects a 3rd party agency through open tendering. In such assessment(s), State/ UTs are given a functionality score on the basis of functionality of samples on quantity (55lpcd or more), quality and regularity i.e. water supply to rural households for all 12 months in a year or on daily basis. All these parameters are taken to define the functionality of the HH tap water connections, as per specified criteria.

Since starting of the mission in August 2019, three functionality assessment survey has been conducted in 2020- 21, 2021-22 and 2024-25. The reports of the last functionality assessment 2024 is also available in public domain at following URL:

<https://jaljeevanmission.gov.in/functionality-report-2024>

To ensure regular, adequate, and quality rural water supply, the Department launched "Jal Seva Aankalan" on 30 December 2025. Under this initiative, the Village Water & Sanitation Committee (VWSC) conducts village-level assessments. Following a Gram Sabha presentation, the Panchayat Secretary digitally submits the data on the JJM-IMIS Dashboard for 'Har Ghar Jal' villages. District and State authorities then review this information to identify service gaps and formulate effective improvement plans for sustainable water management.
