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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1849
ANSWERED ON 09/03/2026

DELAY IN ACHIEVEMENT OF TARGETS UNDER JJM AND RELATED PROJECTS

1849 SHRI IMRAN PRATAPGARHI:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether the flagship Jal Jeevan Mission has failed to achieve its original 2024 target of providing Functional Household Tap Connections to every rural household, necessitating its extension to 2028;

(b) the specific reasons for this delay and the number of households that have remained uncovered as on date; and

(c) the corrective measures Government has taken to ensure time-bound implementation, accountability of officials and prevention of cost overruns?

ANSWER

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

(a) To enable every rural household in the country to have assured potable water, in adequate quantity of prescribed quality on regular and long-term basis, through tap water connection, since August 2019, Government of India, in partnership with states, is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) - Har Ghar Jal.

At the start the Mission, only 3.23 Crore (16.7%) rural households were reported to have tap water connections. So far, as reported by States/ UTs as on 03.03.2026, under JJM more than 12.58 Crore additional rural households have been provided with tap water connections. Thus, as on 03.03.2026, out of around 19.36 Crore rural households in the country, around 15.82 Crore (81.71%) households are reported to have tap water supply in their homes and works for the remaining 3.54 Crore households are at various stages of implementation in respective States. To complete the ongoing works, Hon'ble Finance Minister during her budget speech 2025-26 announced extension of JJM until 2028.

(b) and (c) Drinking water being a state subject, and therefore, under JJM, responsibilities for planning, approval, implementation, operation and maintenance of drinking water supply schemes lie with State/ UT governments. Government of India supplements the efforts of the State/ UT government by providing technical and financial assistance. States have reported challenges such as scarce dependable water sources in stressed areas, geogenic contamination, difficult terrain, scattered habitations, limited technical capacity, and delays in statutory clearances, etc. To address these challenges, the Government introduced measures like Special Assistance for Capital Expenditure, appointed nodal officers for faster clearances, set up SPMUs, DPMUs and the Nal Jal Mitra programme to strengthen local technical skills. Further, initiative of Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain further promote source sustainability, community-led conservation and women's leadership in ensuring long-term drinking water security.

To ensure universal coverage through tap water connection, the Department has evolved a comprehensive multi-level and multi-format system of monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of programme, linking AADHAR of the head of household for targeted delivery and monitoring of specific outcomes, subject to statutory provisions, including geo-tagging of assets created, third-party inspections before making payments, measurement and monitoring of water supply in villages through digital solution on pilot basis, etc.

Further, to expedite the implementation and strengthening the existing monitoring mechanisms under JJM aiming at improving efficiency and effectiveness, steps like district level dashboards and linking of GPs level dashboards to eGramswaraj portal, District Collectors' Peyjal Samvad, Institutionalization of role of National WASH Experts (NWEs) through IMIS module, role of Third Party Inspection Agency (TPIAs), strengthened collaboration with line Ministries, Decision Support System for strengthening Source Sustainability, Handbook on Community Managed Piped Water Systems, Unique ID for integrated Piped Water System, etc. have recently been taken up under JJM.

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