

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2628
ANSWERED ON 16/03/2026

EXECUTION DEADLOCK UNDER JJM WORKS IN KERALA

2628. SMT. JEBI MATHER HISHAM:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether tenders were issued without adequate fund allocation, under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in the State of Kerala, if so, details thereof, including action taken and rectification measures;
- (b) whether contractors face bank recovery due to delayed payments and the measures taken to protect contractors and prevent work abandonment;
- (c) if so, whether Government will clarify the total funds required from Centre and State to complete JJM in the State of Kerala within revised timelines, along with the committed release schedule, details; and
- (d) whether Government will urgently intervene to resolve the execution deadlock and release a White Paper on JJM implementation in the State, details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) Since August 2019, Government of India is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) – Har Ghar Jal, in partnership with States/ UTs including Kerala, to make provision of safe and adequate tap water connection to every rural household of the country.

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.

The funds under JJM were allocated during the Mission period as per approved criteria mentioned in the operational guidelines of JJM. Since the launch of JJM, the central allocation to the State of Kerala has been Rs. 7,955.85 crore. However, the State was able to draw only Rs. 5,610.31 crore only (70%) primarily due to delay in release of matching State share. Water being a State subject, States have been advised to continue the implementation of ongoing works from their own resources.

The Union Cabinet has approved the extension of JJM until December 2028 with enhanced total outlay. The funds during the extended phase of the mission shall be released to States/UTs as per extant guidelines of JJM.
