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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4071
ANSWERED ON 30/03/2026

WATER QUALITY AND POTABILITY STATUS IN DIFFERENT STATES

4071. SHRI SANT BALBIR SINGH:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) State-wise report of water samples tested across the country during the last five years, including parameters used to determine potability such as chemical, biological and heavy metal contamination;

(b) States or districts that have been identified as having potable drinking water and the areas that have been declared unsafe or contaminated, with special reference to the State of Punjab; and

(c) details of the agencies responsible for collecting and testing water samples, the frequency of testing and the standards followed?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) is under implementation since August, 2019, in partnership with States/ UTs including Punjab to make provision of potable tap water supply in adequate quantity, of prescribed quality and on regular & long-term basis to rural households. Drinking Water being a State subject, the responsibility of Planning, Designing, Approval, Implementation, Operation & Maintenance of drinking water supply schemes, including those under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), is vested with State/UT Governments. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the States/ UTs by providing financial, policy guidance and technical assistance.

The State-wise details of water quality testing in laboratories reported by States/UTs on JJM-WQMIS since 2021-22 is at **Annex-I**.

Under JJM, as per existing guidelines, Bureau of Indian Standards' BIS:10500 standards are adopted as benchmark for quality of water being supplied through the piped water supply schemes. Bureau of Indian Standards IS–10500: 2012 specifies 'acceptable limit' and 'permissible limit in the absence of alternate source' for various physio-chemical and bacteriological parameters for drinking water quality as provided in **Annex-II**.

Under JJM, while planning water supply schemes to provide tap water supply to households, priority is given to habitations affected by chemical contaminants. States/ UTs have been advised to plan and implement piped water supply schemes based on alternative safe water sources for the villages with water quality issues. Moreover, any water supply scheme undertaken under JJM is approved

only after the recommendation of a Source Finding Committee of the respective State Government, to the effect that the identified water source through which the scheme is planned, has sufficient yield for sustaining water supply as per required norm, for the scheme design period.

Significant progress has been made in the country since the launch of JJM, towards enhancing access to tap water for rural households. At the start of JJM in August 2019, only 3.23 Crore rural households were reported to have tap water connections. So far, as reported by State/UTs, more than 12.59 Crore additional rural households have been provided with tap water connections under JJM. Thus, as on 24.03.2026, out of 19.36 Crore rural households in the country, more than 15.83 Crore households are reported to have tap water connections in their homes. (Source: JJM-IMIS).

The Ministry of Housing Affairs (MoHUA) has informed that as reported by States/UTs on the AMRUT 2.0 platform during the period from 1st January, 2024 to 31st December, 2024, a total of 3,32,170 water quality samples out of 3,35,278 samples tested at Water Treatment Plants (WTPs) and 22,18,838 samples out of 22,45,200 samples tested at the household level in urban areas were found compliant for the parameters E. coli, Arsenic and Fluoride. State-wise details of water quality testing in urban areas are available at the website - https://amrut.mohua.gov.in/wqa/dashboard.

MoHUA has published Manual on Water Supply and Treatment Systems (Drink from Tap) in March 2024 for reference by the States/ Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) for designing, implementation, drinking water quality and monitoring of the water supply projects. Also, MoHUA has issued an advisory "Strengthening Water Quality Monitoring in Cities through Community Participation" under AMRUT 2.0 in November, 2024 to all the States to formulate a Water Quality Monitoring strategy at the State or City level and to strengthen the institutional capacity for citywide monitoring of drinking water quality in urban areas along with Digital Display Boards for water quality parameters for public information & awareness.

Through AMRUT/AMRUT 2.0 and in convergence with the State, 3.03 lakh water tap connections and 2,457.50 km of water pipeline network have been provided in the urban areas of Punjab and 113 MLD of water treatment capacity have been developed so far. Approved projects cover further development of 1014.78 MLD of water treatment capacity in the ULBs.

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Annex-I

Annex-I referred to in reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4071 answered on 30.03.2026

State-wise details of water quality testing reported by States/UTs

Sl. No.	State	No. of samples tested in lab				
		2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026*
1.	A&N Islands	992	1,152	984	1,172	2,711
2.	Andhra Pradesh	3,64,606	6,14,014	6,99,999	6,86,179	6,97,156
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	26,007	29,178	39,238	22,271	9,862
4.	Assam	2,16,323	1,69,108	2,97,405	2,70,466	1,95,231
5.	Bihar	2,02,493	2,32,425	1,60,783	2,74,547	1,33,290
6.	Chhattisgarh	68,935	1,11,208	1,23,175	1,60,891	98,274
7.	DNH & DD	-	-	-	-	-
8.	Goa	8,571	8,881	10,336	13,660	7,469
9.	Gujarat	2,39,232	2,57,489	1,53,057	71,204	2,97,144
10.	Haryana	96,910	82,725	69,702	60,757	41,042
11.	Himachal Pradesh	2,66,754	1,98,497	2,20,428	2,41,458	2,64,430
12.	Jammu & Kashmir	1,97,360	2,67,334	2,53,364	2,66,547	2,99,705
13.	Jharkhand	1,49,724	1,95,314	2,14,431	2,18,562	2,01,129
14.	Karnataka	1,59,533	2,22,732	2,66,532	3,21,759	2,41,358
15.	Kerala	2,41,787	4,55,436	6,36,043	7,00,732	3,44,306
16.	Ladakh	5,359	5,480	7,706	10,229	8,325
17.	Lakshadweep	3,483	4,778	6,880	7,897	3,519
18.	Madhya Pradesh	3,44,612	6,37,637	5,74,409	5,74,798	4,70,108
19.	Maharashtra	69,215	3,93,623	6,42,396	5,87,570	5,35,799
20.	Manipur	17,413	22,373	17,413	19,508	5,473
21.	Meghalaya	7,104	32,805	51,836	40,657	35,803
22.	Mizoram	18,930	37,306	29,224	21,908	7,704
23.	Nagaland	4,308	12,747	7,947	6,751	1,258
24.	Odisha	2,16,816	2,37,965	2,60,445	2,72,406	2,32,196
25.	Puducherry	942	997	818	287	-
26.	Punjab	14,930	24,616	33,107	67,481	68,102
27.	Rajasthan	1,11,407	1,41,441	1,98,476	1,80,063	69,534
28.	Sikkim	6,252	7,689	15,527	17,297	6,875
29.	Tamil Nadu	3,46,263	6,71,421	8,48,706	9,07,742	9,22,464
30.	Telangana	2,23,180	2,46,089	2,91,673	2,85,183	2,70,985
31.	Tripura	30,939	19,572	50,701	82,287	55,008
32..	Uttar Pradesh	99,006	3,16,618	6,23,246	10,67,899	8,14,562
33.	Uttarakhand	71,203	93,407	1,19,958	1,25,553	1,02,997
34.	West Bengal	3,41,587	4,67,718	5,74,096	6,82,526	4,58,258
Total		**41,72,176**	**62,19,775**	**75,00,041**	**82,68,247**	**69,02,077**

* As on 24.03.2026

Source: JJM-WQMIS

Annex-II

Annex-II referred to in reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4071 answered on 30.03.2026

'Acceptable limit' and 'permissible limit in the absence of alternate source' prescribed by Bureau of Indian Standard (BIS) (extract) for various physio-chemical and bacteriological parameters for drinking water quality

S. No.	Characteristics	Unit	Acceptable Limit	Permissible Limit
1.	pH value	..	6.5 -8.5	No relaxation
2.	Total dissolved solids	Milligram/ litre	500	2,000
3.	Turbidity	NTU	1	5
4.	Chloride	Milligram/ litre	250	1,000
5.	Total Alkalinity	Milligram/ litre	200	600
6.	Total Hardness	Milligram/ litre	200	600
7.	Sulphate	Milligram/ litre	200	400
8.	Iron	Milligram/ litre	1.0	No relaxation
9.	Total Arsenic	Milligram/ litre	0.01	No relaxation
10.	Fluoride	Milligram/ litre	1.0	1.5
11.	Nitrate	Milligram/ litre	45	No relaxation
12.	Total Coliform bacteria	Shall not be detectable in any 100 ml sample		
13.	E-coli or thermo- tolerant coliform bacteria	Shall not be detectable in any 100 ml sample		