

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 83
ANSWERED ON 20/07/2026

CURRENT STATUS OF JAL JEEVAN MISSION

83. SHRI JOSE K. MANI:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of household tap water coverage under the Jal Jeevan Mission;
- (b) whether quality issues such as Fluoride, Arsenic and salinity continue to affect drinking water in certain regions; and
- (c) the measures taken to ensure long-term sustainability of water sources amid declining groundwater levels?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) Drinking water is a State subject. The power to plan, design, approve and implement drinking water supply schemes/projects lies with State Government. The Government of India, in partnership with States/UTs is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission, since August, 2019, to make provision of tap water supply of prescribed quality on a regular and long-term basis to every rural household.

Significant progress has been made in the country since the launch of Jal Jeevan Mission, towards enhancing access to tap water to rural households. At the start of Jal Jeevan Mission in August 2019, only 3.23 crore (16.72%) rural households were reported to have tap water connections. As on 15.07.2026, out of 19.36 crore rural households in the country, more than 15.88 crore (82.09%) households are reported to have tap water connections in their homes. (Source: JJM-IMIS).

Under the Jal Jeevan Mission, 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. States/ UTs have been advised to install community water purification plants (CWPPs) especially in Arsenic and Fluoride affected habitations to provide potable water to every household to meet their drinking and cooking requirements (to the tune of 8-10 litres per capita per day) till the commissioning of piped water supply schemes

compliant to JJM standards. As reported by States/UTs on JJM-IMIS as on 15.07.2026, there are 272 Arsenic-affected and 134 Fluoride-affected rural habitations which are covered through community water purification plants (CWPPs). Thus, all habitation in rural area of the country are provided safe drinking water free from Arsenic and Fluoride contamination.

As reported by States/UTs on JJM-WQMIS, as on 15.07.2026, the State Public Health Engineering/Rural Water Supply department operate a network of 2,850 drinking water quality testing laboratories at various levels viz. State, regional, district, sub-division, block, mobile and/ or WTP facility laboratories. States/UTs have been advised to carry out testing of water quality on a regular basis and take remedial action wherever necessary, to ensure that the water supplied to households is of prescribed quality.

To ensure long-term sustainability of drinking water supply, the Mission provides for development, strengthening and augmentation of drinking water sources, along with creation of bulk water transfer, treatment and distribution infrastructure, particularly in water-scarce, drought-prone and desert areas. States/UTs have also been advised to undertake source sustainability measures such as rainwater harvesting, recharge structures, rejuvenation of water bodies and reuse of greywater through convergence with programmes such as VB G RAM G (erstwhile MGNREGA), Finance Commission tied grants, State schemes and CSR initiatives. These efforts are complemented by national initiatives including Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain, Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari, the National Aquifer Mapping Programme and Atal Bhujal Yojana.

CGWB has prepared a Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Groundwater- 2020 in consultation with States/UTs which is a macro level plan indicating various structures for the different terrain conditions of the country. The Master Plan envisages construction of about 1.42 crore Rain water harvesting and artificial recharge structures in the country to harness 185 Billion Cubic Meter (BCM) of monsoon rainfall.
