

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI  
DEPARTMENT OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION  
**LOK SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. †\*21**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON - 08.12.2022

**CONTAMINATED DRINKING WATER**

†\*21. SHRI BALAK NATH:  
SHRIMATI RANJEETA KOLI:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of persons falling victim to the health hazards caused by drinking water contaminated with higher levels of Arsenic, Fluoride, Iron, Salinity and Nitrates in the State of Rajasthan, district-wise;
- (b) whether any steps have been taken by the Government in this regard and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to improve the water harvesting infrastructure in order to raise water table in Rajasthan; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI  
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (d) A Statement of reply is laid on the Table of the House.

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**Statement referred to in the reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. †\*21 due for reply on 08.12.2022**

Government of India is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) – Har Ghar Jal, since August, 2019, in partnership with States, to make provision of potable tap water supply in adequate quantity, of prescribed quality and on regular & long-term basis to every rural household by 2024. Water safety has been one of the key priorities under the JJM since its inception. However, “water” being a state subject planning, approval and implementation of drinking water supply schemes, lies with state/UT governments.

As per existing JJM guidelines, IS:10500 is to be adopted for ensuring safe drinking water supply. Following measures have been taken under JJM to facilitate action on water quality aspects at state level –

- While allocating the funds to States/ UTs, 10% weightage is given to the population residing in habitations affected by chemical contaminants.
- The “Drinking Water Quality Monitoring & Surveillance Framework” was devised and disseminated to states in October 2021.
- To facilitate implementation of the above said Framework, more than 2000 water quality testing laboratories have been set up in the country. Besides this, five persons, preferably women are identified and trained from every village for testing the water samples through Field Test Kits (FTKs) and so far, 15.18 lakh women have been trained.
- To enable States/ UTs to test water samples for water quality, and for sample collection, reporting, monitoring and surveillance of drinking water sources, an online JJM – Water Quality Management Information System (WQMIS) portal has been developed.
- Under JJM, while planning for potable water supply to household through tap water connection, priority is given to quality-affected habitations. Since, planning, implementation and commissioning of piped water supply scheme based on a safe water source takes time, purely as an interim measure, 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 at the rate of 8–10 litre per capita per day (lpcd) to meet their drinking and cooking requirements.
- To encourage water quality testing to ensure potable drinking water supply, States/ UTs have also been advised to open water quality testing laboratories to general public for testing of their water samples.

States/UTs have been directed to undertake testing of water quality on a periodic basis and take remedial action wherever necessary, to ensure that the water supplied to households is of prescribed quality standards (BIS:10500). As a result of the above-mentioned efforts, as reported by States/UTs, more than 23.21 lakh water samples have been tested in the water testing laboratories and 51.72 lakh water samples through the Field Testing Kits, in 2022-23 alone. The State-wise details of water quality test reported through WQMIS is available in public domain on JJM Dashboard and can also be accessed at: <https://ejalshakti.gov.in/WQMIS/>

As reported by the Government of Rajasthan, the district-wise detail of quality-affected habitations is **Annexed**. The details regarding persons having health hazard due to contaminated drinking water is not maintained centrally.

Regarding improvement in Rain Water Harvesting infrastructure, during 2021-22, the Central Ground Water Board(CGWB) has taken up the project on 'Groundwater augmentation through artificial recharge in identified water stressed areas of Rajasthan, comprising Jodhpur, Jaisalmer & Sikar districts of Rajasthan. The structures include check dams, anicuts and recharge shaft with ponds. Further, the Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Groundwater- 2020 has been prepared by CGWB in consultation with States/UTs which is a macro level plan indicating various structures for the different terrain conditions of the country including Rajasthan. As per Master Plan 2020 of Rajasthan an area of 113498.00 sq.km identified for Artificial Recharge.

Also, in 2019, Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA) was conducted to bring awareness on various aspects of water conservation and promote rain water harvesting and artificial recharge in 256 water stressed districts and was expanded to the whole country in 2021. "Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain" (JSA: CTR) - 2022 campaign, the third in the series of JSAs, has been launched on 29.3.2022 to cover all the blocks of all districts across the country including all districts of Rajasthan. As per the information available on the JSA: CTR portal, total number of water conservation and rainwater harvesting structures completed/ ongoing in the State in Rajasthan under JSA:CTR 2021 is 1.28 lakh and under JSA:CTR 2022 is 0.67 lakh

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Annex as referred in the reply of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.†\*21 due for reply on 08.12.2022

**District -wise number of water quality-affected habitations in Rajasthan**

(as on 05.12.2022)

S. No	District	Number of quality-affected habitations					
		Fluoride-affected		Arsenic-affected	Iron-affected	Salinity-affected	Nitrate-affected
		Total No.	Covered with CWPP				
1.	Alwar	66	66	-	-	30	1
2.	Banswara	11	-	-	-	1	5
3.	Baran	-	-	-	-	2	1
4.	Barmer	9	9	-	-	8,569	4
5.	Bharatpur	-	-	-	-	438	6
6.	Bhilwara	1	1	-	-	7	9
7.	Bikaner	1	1	-	-	14	84
8.	Bundi	-	-	-	-	37	22
9.	Chittaurgarh	1	1	-	1	36	34
10.	Dausa	15	10	-	-	6	18
11.	Dhaulpur	-	-	-	-	1	-
12.	Dungarpur	-	-	-	-	1	17
13.	Hanumangarh	-	-	-	-	3	-
14.	Jaipur	-	-	-	-	16	3
15.	Jaisalmer	28	28	-	1	2	15
16.	Jhunjhunun	4	4	-	-	4	4
17.	Jodhpur	22	22	-	-	504	55
18.	Karauli	-	-	-	-	19	7
19.	Kota	-	-	-	2	16	9
20.	Nagaur	-	-	-	-	2	8
21.	Pali	24	9	-	-	4	23
22.	Pratapgarh	-	-	-	-	1	103
23.	Rajsamand	-	-	-	-	2	10
24.	Sawai Madhopur	2	-	-	-	9	3
25.	Sikar	2	2	-	-	7	9
26.	Tonk	2	-	-	-	-	-
27.	Udaipur	-	-	-	-	39	13

Source: JJM-IMIS