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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 71 ANSWERED ON 02.02.2023

CONTAMINATION OF WATER

71. SHRI HASNAIN MASOODI:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the measures being taken to address the issue of contaminated water in Kulgam District against the failure of the installation of purification plants under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM); and
- (b) the number and timelines for purification plants proposed to be installed in the Brinal, Bugam and Yaripora villages of Kulgam district and Khrew area of Pulwama district to provide safe drinking water for the residents of Kulgam and Pulwama?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI (SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)

(a) & (b) Drinking Water being a State subject, it is States/UTs who plan, design, approve and implement drinking water supply schemes. Government of India supplements the efforts of the States by providing technical and financial assistance. As such State/ UT and district-wise details of individual projects/ schemes for rural water supply, including proposals and approval, are not maintained at the Government of India level.

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. Under JJM, while allocating the funds to States/ UTs, 10% weightage is given to the population residing in habitations affected by chemical contaminants.

Under JJM, while planning for potable water supply to household through tap water connection, priority is to be given to quality-affected habitations. Since, planning, implementation and commissioning of piped water supply scheme based on a safe water source may take 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.

Contamination in drinking water sources is monitored habitation-wise. The UT of Jammu & Kashmir have not reported any habitation with contaminants in drinking water source beyond permissible limit.

Under Jal Jeevan Mission, as per existing guidelines, Bureau of Indian Standards' IS:10500

standard is to be adopted for ensuring safe drinking water supply. States/UTs have been advised to undertake testing of water quality on a periodic basis and take remedial action to ensure that the water supplied to households is of prescribed quality.

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. As reported by States/UTs on WQMIS, as on 31/01/23, more than 42.85 lakh water samples have been tested in the water testing laboratories and 77.29 lakh water samples using Field Testing Kits, during 2022-23. The State–wise details of water quality test reported through WQMIS are available in public domain on JJM Dashboard and can also be accessed at:

https://ejalshakti.gov.in/WQMIS/Main/report
