

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI
DEPARTMENT OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-3485
ANSWERED ON-10/08/2023

Check Dams in Tamil Nadu

3485. SHRI RAMALINGAM S.:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Union Government has accepted the proposal sent by Tamil Nadu seeking special funding assistance of Rs. 2400 crore under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) to construct check dams in five places across Cauvery, Kollidam and Vennar rivers to ensure sustainability of combined water supply projects and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the funds allocated and released to Tamil Nadu under JJM during the last five years;
- (c) whether the Union Government has taken any steps on such proposal of the State to upgrade the existing combined water supply projects with machines to ensure automation and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to prevent excess water from Cauvery and Kollidam rivers flowing into the sea by storing the water in nearby lakes and ponds; and
- (e) whether the Union Government has given extension of two years as requested by the Government of Tamil Nadu to complete JJM Projects and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE OF JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)

(a) Government of India, in partnership with States/UTs including Tamil Nadu is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission, since August, 2019, to make provision of tap water supply to every rural household in the country by 2024. Drinking water supply is a State subject. Power to plan, design, approve, implement, operate and maintain water supply schemes is vested with States, including Tamil Nadu. Government of India supplements the efforts of the States by providing technical and financial assistance. As per operational guidelines of Jal Jeevan Mission, 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 being taken up under JJM. As such details of individual rural water supply projects, including check dams, are not maintained centrally. No such proposal, as referred to in the question, is under consideration

(b) The year-wise details of funds allocated, released, and utilized by Tamil Nadu under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) are as under:

(Amount in Rs. Crore)

Year	Central share					Expenditure under State share
	Opening Balance	Budget allocation	Fund drawn by the State	Total available fund	Reported utilization	
2019-20	1.49	373.87	373.10	378.67	114.58	99.14
2020-21	264.09	921.99	690.36	954.45	576.97	399.57
2021-22	377.48	3,691.21	614.35	998.83	457.55	496.23
2022-23	534.29	4,015.00	872.96	1407.25	594.64	665.28
2023-24*	812.60	3,615.56	ND	812.60	415.66	418.94

* As on 08.08.2023

ND: Not Drawn

(c) and (d) The water sources which *inter alia* include groundwater (open well, borewell, tube well, handpumps, etc.), surface water (river, reservoir, lake, pond, springs, etc.) and rain water stored in small tanks are being used as sources for drinking water supply schemes. Under JJM, provisions have been made for development/ strengthening/ augmentation of drinking water sources; and infrastructure for bulk transfer of water, treatment and distribution systems in water deficit drought-prone and desert areas without dependable ground water sources apart from creation of in-village water supply infrastructure.

In addition, provisions for taking up augmentation and strengthening of local drinking water sources in convergence with other schemes at village level viz. MGNREGS, 15th Finance Commission tied grants to RLBs/ PRIs, Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP), State schemes, District Mineral Development Fund, CSR funds, community contribution, etc. is also envisaged under the JJM. Details of individual projects/ schemes for rural water supply projects including water source for scheme are not maintained at the Government of India level

(e) At the time of announcement of Jal Jeevan Mission, 3.23 Crore (17%) rural households were reported to have tap water connections. So far, as reported by States/UTs as on 08.08.2023, around 9.53 Crore rural households have been provided with tap water connections in last 4 years under JJM. Thus, as on 08.08.2023, out of 19.41 Crore rural households in the country, around 12.76 Crore (65.75%) households are reported to have tap water supply in their homes and the States have been advised to cover the remaining rural households during the mission period.
