Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to provide access to hygienic drinking water in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the details of the challenges faced in implementing the same;

(d) the details of the steps taken to solve the water problem in the arid areas of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Jharkhand;

(e) whether any study has been undertaken to provide water for the above said States; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI
(DR. PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)

(a) & (b) Since August, 2019, Government of India in partnership with States, is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) – Har Ghar Jal to make provision of potable tap water to every rural household in the country to by 2024 with an estimated outlay of Rs. 3.60 Lakh Crore. As on date, out of 18.98 crore rural households, 7.81 crore (41.15%) households have provision of tap water supply. State, district and village-wise status of physical progress across the country is available on JJM dashboard at: [https://ejalshakti.gov.in/jjmreport/JJMIndia.aspx](https://ejalshakti.gov.in/jjmreport/JJMIndia.aspx).
(c) Some major challenges, viz. paucity of dependable water sources in water-stressed areas, presence of contaminants in ground water and capacity of Gram Panchayats and local communities to plan, manage, operate & maintain the water supply schemes, and delay in release of the matching State share in some States especially during the Covid-19 pandemic, etc. are being faced in the implementation of JJM.

(d) to (f) Under JJM, provisions have been made for drinking water source development/strengthening/augmentation; 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. Government has also launched Jal Shakti Abhiyan to promote rainwater harvesting and water conservation.

In addition, for long-term sustainability of drinking water sources and water supply systems, provisions has been made 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 Rural Local Bodies (RLBs), Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP), State schemes, District Mineral Development Fund, CSR funds, community contribution, etc.

Drinking water supply is a State subject and powers to plan, approve, implement, operate and maintain rural water supply schemes are vested with States.

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