

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4602
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31/03/2022

DRINKING WATER FACILITY IN TRIBAL AREAS

4602. SHRI KURUVA GORANTLA MADHAV:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any step to provide safe purified drinking water in the tribal areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has established solar drinking water units in the tribal areas; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) Since August 2019, Government of India, in partnership with States, is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) to make provision of tap water supply to every rural household of the country, including those in tribal areas, by 2024. As reported by States, as on date, out of 212.19 lakh rural households in ST dominated areas, 82.84 lakh (39%) rural households have been provided with tap water connection.

Further, 10% weightage is assigned for population residing in SC/ ST dominated areas, while allocating the fund, to prioritize the coverage in these areas.

(c) & (d) Drinking Water being a State subject, it is States, 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 details of individual projects/schemes for rural water supply projects are not maintained at the Government of India level.

However, under JJM, States/ UTs have been advised to explore technological interventions such as Solar energy based stand-alone water supply systems so as to reduce O&M charges and dependence of electric supply for scattered/ isolated/ tribal villages.
