

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI
DEPARTMENT OF DRINKING WATER & SANITATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. – 2931
ANSWERED ON 08/08/2024

DRINKING WATER CRISIS IN RAJASTHAN

†2931. SMT. SANJNA JATAV

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the serious potable water crisis caused by the continuous fall in water level in various States of the country including Rajasthan;
- (b) if so, the details of the schemes being implemented by the Government to address this situation;
- (c) whether Bharatpur, Dholpur, Alwar districts of Rajasthan have been facing water crisis during the last five years;
- (d) if so, whether the Government proposes to implement any special scheme for potable water in the said districts; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI V. SOMANNA)

(a) to (e) Government of India is committed to the provision of safe and potable tap water supply in adequate quantity, of prescribed quality and on a regular & long-term basis to all rural households in the country. Towards this end, the Government of India launched the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), to be implemented in partnership with States including Rajasthan, in August 2019. Drinking Water is a state subject, and hence, the responsibility of planning, approval, implementation, operation, and maintenance of drinking water supply schemes, including those under the JJM, lies with State/UT Governments. The Government of India supports the states by providing technical and financial assistance.

JJM follows a universal saturation approach and covers all rural households in the country including those in Bharatpur, Dholpur and Alwar districts of Rajasthan. Significant progress has been made in the country since the launch of JJM, towards enhancing access to tap water to rural households. At the start of mission in August 2019, only 3.23 crore rural households were reported to have tap water connections. So far, as reported by States/ UTs as on 05.08.2024, around 11.80 crore additional rural households have been provided with tap water connections under JJM. Thus, as on 05.08.2024, out of 19.32 crore rural households in the country, more than 15.04 crore (77.87%) rural households are reported to have tap water supply in their homes.

As reported by the State Government of Rajasthan, at the time of launch of JJM in the State on 15.08.2019, only 11.68 lakh rural households had tap water connections. Since then, 43.99 lakh additional rural households have been provided with tap water connections. Thus, as on 05.08.2024, out of 107.09 lakh rural households in the state, the provision of tap water supply is available to more than 55.68 lakhs (51.99%) rural households.

Further, development of reliable drinking water sources and/ or augmentation of existing sources to provide long-term sustainability of water supply system in villages, is an integral part of Jal Jeevan Mission. Provision has been made for the preparation of Village Action Plan (VAP) by village community, which *inter alia* includes strengthening of drinking water sources in convergence with other schemes such as MGNREGS, Finance Commission grants to rural local bodies/ PRIs, MP & MLA's Local Area Development Fund, District Mineral Development Fund, CSR fund, etc.
