

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1662**  
ANSWERED ON 05.12.2024

**IMPLEMENTATION OF JJM IN GARO HILLS REGION OF MEGHALAYA**

1662. SHRI SALENG A SANGMA:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the progress made in the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in the Garo Hills region of Meghalaya including the number of households provided with tap water connections and the expected timeline for completing 100% coverage;
- (b) whether the Government has faced any challenges in extending JJM to remote and hilly areas in Garo Hills and if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken/being taken to address them;
- (c) the total funds allocated and utilised in the Garo Hills region under the said Mission during the current year;
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure sustainable water sources for the newly connected households under JJM in Garo Hills; and
- (e) whether any skill development programmes are being conducted to create employment opportunities for local residents through JJM projects in the said region and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI  
(SHRI V. SOMANNA)

(a) Government of India in partnership with States, is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) – Har Ghar Jal to make provision of tap water supply to every rural household including those in the Garo Hills region of Meghalaya. At the start of Jal Jeevan Mission in August 2019, 0.01 lakh (0.46%) rural households were reported to have tap water connections in the Garo Hills region. So far, as reported by the State as on 02.12.2024, under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) – Har Ghar Jal, around 2.28 lakh additional rural households have been provided with tap water connections in the region. Thus, as on 02.12.2024, out of 2.78 lakh rural households in the region, around 2.29 lakh (82.71%) households are reported to have tap water supply in their homes and the remaining 0.49 lakh households are likely to be covered by the State as per its plan.

(b) Water being a State subject, States have been empowered to plan, design, approve, implement and operate & maintain drinking water supply schemes. Government of India supplements the efforts of State Governments by providing financial and technical assistance. State of Meghalaya has informed that transportation of materials due to poor road connectivity, poor network connectivity for updating of physical & financial progress and less discharge from water sources during the lean periods are the challenges being faced in implementation of the Mission in Garo Hills Region. To meet these challenges on priority, the State Government is regularly reviewing the progress apart from convergence for rejuvenation of identified critical water supply sources.

(c) Under JJM, district/ region-wise fund allocations and details thereof are not made and maintained by this department. However, year-wise details of Central fund allocated, fund drawn and fund utilization reported by the State of Meghalaya is as under:

(Amount in Rs. Crore)

Year	Central					Expenditure under State share
	Opening Balance	Fund allocated	Fund drawn	Available Fund	Reported utilization	
2019-20	0.80	86.02	43.01	43.81	26.35	0.77
2020-21	17.46	174.92	184.92	202.38	188.30	20.44
2021-22	14.18	678.39	1,078.39	1,092.57	672.05	76.55
2022-23	420.52	747.76	1,047.00	1,467.52	1,098.48	122.85
2023-24	369.04	3,567.25	1,500.00	1,869.04	1,572.14	171.74
2024-25*	296.90	653.60	196.08	492.98	440.40	51.98

\* As on 03.12.2024

ND: Not Drawn

Source: JJM-IMIS

(d) To ensure long term sustainability of infrastructure created, quality material and quality construction is being ensured through third party inspection before making payment. Further, provisions for taking up augmentation and strengthening of local drinking water sources in convergence with other schemes viz. MGNREGS, 15th Finance Commission grants to Rural Local Bodies (RLBs)/ Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP), State schemes, MP/ MLA-LAD funds, District Mineral Development Fund, CSR funds, community contribution, etc. have also been envisaged under the JJM. Moreover, as informed by the State, critical water sources have been identified for rejuvenation in collaboration with Soil & Water Conservation Department in the State and mass awareness programmes are also being conducted among village communities to conserve water sources.

(e) *Nal Jal Mitra Programme* is being implemented across the States, including Meghalaya, in collaboration with Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship for ensuring availability of skilled local persons at village level so that they can function as scheme operators and are able to carry out minor repairs and maintenance, including preventive maintenance, of the piped water supply scheme(s) in their village. As informed by the State, so far 2,893 local residents have been trained as plumbers and masons in the State.

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