

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI  
DEPARTMENT OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4009**  
ANSWERED ON – 19/12/2024

**CONTAMINATION OF DRINKING WATER**

4009. MR PATHAN YUSUF:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the States affected due to contamination of drinking water with fluoride and arsenic elements across the country, district-wise;
- (b) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to provide safe drinking water to such States including West Bengal;
- (c) whether the Government has fixed any target to supply potable tap water supply in adequate quantity regularly to every rural household in the country by 2024, especially in arsenic affected areas;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the number of districts likely to be covered under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) till date; and
- (e) the funds sanctioned by the Government under JJM to West Bengal during the last three years and the current year, year-wise?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (d) Government of India is committed to make provision for safe & 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, in August 2019. Under the Jal Jeevan Mission, as per existing guidelines, Bureau of Indian Standards' BIS:10500 standards are adopted as benchmarks for quality of water being supplied through the piped water supply schemes. Drinking Water being a state subject, the responsibility of planning, approval, implementation, operation, and maintenance of drinking water supply schemes, including those under the Jal Jeevan Mission, lies with State/UT Governments. The Government of India supports the States including West Bengal by providing technical and financial assistance.

Significant progress has been made in the State since the launch of Jal Jeevan Mission, towards enhancing access to tap water to rural households. At the time of announcement of Jal Jeevan Mission in August 2019, 3.23 Crore (16.72%) rural households were reported to have tap water connections in the country. So far, as reported by States/ UTs as on 16.12.2024, around 12.12 Crore additional rural households have been provided with tap water connections under JJM. Thus, as on 16.12.2024, out of 19.36 Crore rural households in the State, approximately 15.36 Crore (79.35%) households are reported to have tap water supply in their homes.

Under JJM, while planning water supply schemes to provide tap water supply to households, priority is given to habitations affected by chemical contaminants. Under JJM, while allocating the funds to States/ UTs, 10% weightage is given to the population residing in habitations affected by chemical contaminants including fluoride and arsenic. States/ UTs have been advised to plan and implement piped water supply schemes based on alternative safe water sources for the villages with water quality issues.

Under JJM, it was envisaged that planning, implementation and commissioning of piped water supply scheme based on a safe water source may take time, therefore, purely as an interim measure, States/ UTs have been advised to install community water purification plants (CWPPs) especially in Arsenic and Fluoride affected habitations to provide potable water to every household to meet their drinking and cooking requirements. Since launch of JJM, due to the efforts taken under the mission, the number of reported fluoride and arsenic affected habitations have reduced over the years. Further, in all the remaining 255 fluoride and 314 arsenic affected habitations, provision of safe drinking water for cooking and drinking requirements has been made available through CWPPs/ IHPs. State-wise details is **annexed**. In West Bengal, provision of safe drinking water for cooking and drinking requirements has been made available in all the 37 fluoride and 57 arsenic affected habitations.

(e) The details of fund allocation, fund drawn and reported fund utilization under JJM during the last three years (2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24) and current financial year 2024-25 (as on 16.12.2024) by the state of West Bengal are as under:

(Amount in Rs. Crore)

Year	Central					Expenditure under State share
	Opening Balance	Allocation	Fund Drawn	Available Fund	Reported utilization	
2021-22	757.58	6,998.97	1,404.61	2,162.19	1,547.52	725.77
2022-23	614.67	6,180.25	3,090.12	3,704.79	1,953.73	3,204.21
2023-24	1,751.06	3,806.29	4,206.29	5,957.35	5,004.16	5,155.11
2024-25*	953.19	5,049.98	2,524.99	3,478.18	2,596.57	2,833.52

\* as on 16.12.2024

Source: JJM-IMIS

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Annex referred in the reply to Lok Sabha unstarred Question No. 4009 for reply on 19/12/2024.

**State and district-wise details of Fluoride-affected habitations (as on 16/12/2024)**

State	District	Number of Fluoride affected habitations	Covered with CWPP/ IHP
Odisha	Balangir	8	8
	Malkangiri	4	4
	Mayurbhanj	2	2
Punjab	Fatehgarh Sahib	12	12
	Ferozepur	1	1
	Patiala	101	101
	Sangrur	3	3
	Tarn Taran	2	2
Rajasthan	Alwar	16	16
	Barmer	4	4
	Bhilwara	1	1
	Bikaner	1	1
	Chittorgarh	1	1
	Dausa	9	9
	Jaisalmer	25	25
	Jhunjhunu	1	1
	Neem Ka Thana	2	2
	Pali	3	3
	Phalodi	21	21
Sikar	1	1	
West Bengal	Birbhum	10	10
	Purulia	27	27
<b>Total</b>		<b>255</b>	<b>255</b>

**State and district-wise details of Arsenic-affected habitations (as on 16/12/2024)**

State	District	Number of Arsenic affected habitations	Covered with CWPP/ IHP
Punjab	Amritsar	122	122
	Fazilka	3	3
	Ferozepur	7	7
	Gurdaspur	100	100
	Rupnagar	1	1
	Tarn Taran	24	24
West Bengal	Malda	37	37
	Murshidabad	16	16
	North 24 Parganas	4	4
<b>Total</b>		<b>314</b>	<b>314</b>