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

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 297
ANSWERED ON 20/03/2025

**ROLE OF ARGHYAM IN INTEGRATING TECHNOLOGY-BASED SOLUTIONS
INTO WATER GOVERNANCE**

*297.   MS. BANSURI SWARAJ:
SHRI MITESH PATEL BAKABHAI:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a)   the role of Arghyam in integrating technology-driven solutions into water governance and the manner in which this would impact decision-making in the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene sector;

(b)   the manner in which the development of Digital Public Infrastructure under this partnership would enhance the implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission and Swachh Bharat Mission;

(c)   the key technological components of the proposed digital ecosystem and the manner in which they would contribute to sustainable water management and sanitation services; and

(d)   the manner in which State institutions are proposed to be strengthened under this initiative to ensure efficient operation and maintenance of water assets?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI
(SHRI C. R. PATIL)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred question no. 297 answered on 20.03.2025 on "role of arghyam in integrating technology-based solutions into water governance" raised by Ms. Bansuri Swaraj & Shri Mitesh Patel Bakabhai

(a) & (b) Arghyam, a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO), has joined Rural WASH (Water and Sanitation, Hygiene) Partners Forum (RWPF) as a lead partner in the thematic area of Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) to lead / support the efforts in creation of DPI to enable the States for efficient, sustainable operations of assets created under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM). DPI is the concept being developed for implementation by the State Governments. Thereafter, Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee National Institute of Water and Sanitation (SPM NIWAS) has entered into a Non-Financial Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Arghyam. This partnership is meant to evolve the guidelines and strategy for adoption of DPI for drinking water sector. The initiative focuses on the development of open Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) and interoperable solutions, which will enable data-driven decision-making across the sector.

(c)   The Key technological component of DPI mainly includes open APIs, Internet of Things (IoT), AI, and cloud computing.

(d)   The DPI provides open APIs and foundational digital tools that States can leverage to monitor, manage, and maintain water supply systems more effectively. By building these digital tools, States may develop context-specific solutions and ensure that the systems are both interoperable and sustainable.

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