GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COOPERATION

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2058 TO BE ANSWERED ON 11th March, 2025

PACS for Rural Water Supply Works in Surat

2058. Shri Mukeshkumar Chandrakaant Dalal:

Will the Minister of Cooperation (सहकारिता मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any steps have been taken by the Ministry for the role of PACS for rural water supply related works, particularly in Surat district, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the State has any role for successful implementation of this initiative, if so, the details of the projects undertaken by respective States;
- (c) the details about budget allocation for PACS including expenditure details; and
- (d) the manner in which the rural households and people are getting benefitted from this scheme in the last three years and how this initiative is cooperating with Jal Jeevan Mission?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COOPERATION सहकारिता मंत्री (SHRI AMIT SHAH)

(a) and (b): Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Cooperation in consultation with Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation, GoI has taken the initiative to allow PACS for carrying out Operation and Maintenance (O&M) of piped water supply schemes in rural areas under National Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM).

The successful implementation of this initiative relies on the cooperation of State government as States are required to incorporate enabling provisions in their Operation and Maintenance (O&M) policies/ guidelines and identify suitable PACS and ensure their capacity building for undertaking O&M works under rural piped water supply schemes.

The State of Gujarat has modified the O&M guidelines and has identified a total of 81 PACS to carry out O&M of piped water supply schemes in rural areas, including one PACS in the Surat district. As per information received from States/ UTs, 934 PACS have been identified/ selected by 13 States/ UTs for this initiative, the State-wise details of which are attached at **Annexure**. Further, a Pilot Project has been initiated by the State of Madhya Pradesh in Dhar District, where

one PACS has been authorized to collect water taxes on behalf of the Gram Panchayat on commission basis.

- (c): Under the National Jal Jeevan Mission of D/o Drinking Water and Sanitation, GoI, five percent of annual allocation to the States is allocated for support activities fund and 2% of allocation to the States can be utilized for carrying out Water Quality Monitoring & Surveillance activities. PACS functioning as Pani Samiti can also get benefit from the same.
- (d): The initiative intends to benefit rural households through improved piped water supply services, reduced operational disruptions, and enhanced water availability through PACS-led O&M activities. These efforts complement the Jal Jeevan Mission by ensuring sustainable and efficient water service delivery to rural households.

 $\underline{\textbf{Annexure}}$ PACS Identified for O&M under Rural Piped Water Supply – State-wise status

S. No.	States / UTs	PACS identified for O&M service
1	Jharkhand	145
2	Tripura	140
3	Manipur	113
4	Sikkim	107
5	Jammu & Kashmir	100
6	Punjab	98
7	Gujarat	81
8	Uttarakhand	60
9	Chhattisgarh	33
10	Madhya Pradesh	26
11	Maharashtra	20
12	Assam	10
13	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1
	Total	934