

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4434
ANSWERED ON 27.03.2025

DRINKING WATER CRISIS IN MAHARASHTRA

4434. SHRI NILESH DNYANDEV LANKE:
SHRI BHASKAR MURLIDHAR BHAGARE:
DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE:
SHRI SANJAY DINA PATIL:
SHRI MOHITE PATIL DHAIRYASHEEL RAJSINH:
SMT. SUPRIYA SULE:
PROF. VARSHA EKNATH GAIKWAD:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the serious drinking water crisis arising due to continuously depleting groundwater levels across various States, especially Maharashtra and if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;

(b) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to address this crisis, including measures for groundwater recharge, sustainable water management and improvement in drinking water supply infrastructure;

(c) the details of the funds allocated and utilised under various drinking water schemes in different districts of Maharashtra during the last five years and the current year, district-wise;

(d) whether the Government has assessed the need for any special intervention to ensure adequate availability of drinking water, especially in water-stressed and drought-prone regions and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has formulated/proposes to formulate any new schemes, policies or technological solutions to enhance drinking water security; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (f) 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.

Government of India, in partnership with States/UTs including Maharashtra is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission, since August, 2019, to make provision of tap water supply to every rural household in the country. JJM follows a universal saturation approach and covers all rural households in the country. Under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation provides financial, policy guidance and technical assistance to the States and Union Territories for implementing their drinking water supply schemes.

Water being a State subject, steps for augmentation, conservation and efficient management of water resources are primarily undertaken by the respective State Governments. Under JJM, provisions have been made for drinking water source development/ strengthening/ augmentation; and infrastructure for bulk transfer of water, treatment and distribution systems in water deficit drought-prone and desert areas without dependable ground water sources, apart from creation of in-village water supply infrastructure. While allocating the fund to States/ UTs, 30% weightage is assigned for difficult terrains which inter alia include areas under Desert Development Programme (DDP) and Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), to prioritize the coverage in these areas.

To achieve drinking water security, every village has to prepare a 5-year Village Action Plan under Jal Jeevan Mission which *inter alia* includes augmentation and strengthening of drinking water sources to be taken up in convergence with other schemes at village level viz. MGNREGS, 15th Finance Commission tied grants to Rural Local Bodies (RLBs)/ PRIs, Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP), State schemes, District Mineral Development Fund, CSR funds, community contribution, etc.

Significant progress has been made in the country since the launch of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), towards enhancing access to tap water to rural households. At the start of Jal Jeevan Mission in August 2019, only 3.23 Crore (~17%) rural households were reported to have tap water connections. So far, as reported by States/ UTs as on 24.03.2025, around 12.31 Crore additional rural households have been provided with tap water connections under JJM. Thus, as on 24.03.2025, out of 19.36 Crore rural households in the country, more than 15.54 Crore (80.26%) households are reported to have tap water supply in their homes.

Similarly, at the start of Jal Jeevan Mission in August 2019, 48.44 lakh (33%) rural households were reported to have tap water connections in Maharashtra. So far, as reported by the State as on 24.03.2025, around 82.37 lakh additional rural households have been provided with tap water connections under JJM during more than last five years. Thus, as on 24.03.2025, out of 146.80 lakh rural households in the Maharashtra, approximately 130.81 lakh (89.11%) households are reported to have tap water supply in their homes.

The important steps taken by the Central Government for sustainable ground water management and addressing water scarcity in the country may be seen at

<https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s3a70dc40477bc2adceef4d2c90f47eb82/uploads/2024/07/20240716706354487.pdf>.

The year-wise details of funds allocated, released and utilized by Maharashtra under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) during the last five years are as under:

(Amount in Rs. Crore)

Year	Central share					Expenditure under State share
	Opening Balance	Budget allocation	Fund drawn by the State	Total available fund	Reported utilization	
2019-20	248.12	847.97	345.28	593.40	308.04	431.79
2020-21	285.35	1828.92	457.23	742.58	473.59	324.16
2021-22	268.99	7,064.41	1,666.64	1,935.63	377.98	477.98
2022-23	1,557.65	7,831.25	3,915.62	5,473.27	3,109.53	2,972.21
2023-24	2,363.74	21,465.88	7,444.26	9,808.00	8,208.53	8,371.34
2024-25	1,599.47	5,352.93	1,605.88	3,205.35	2,089.20	2,644.40

District-wise information related to funds allocated, released and utilized is not maintained centrally.
