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

# LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4489 ANSWERED ON 27/03/2025

#### TAP WATER CONNECTIONS UNDER JJM IN ODISHA

#### 4489. SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of households in which tap water connections installed under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in the eastern part of the country, particularly in Odisha;
- (b) the measures taken/being taken by the Government to create awareness about water conservation including campaigns and initiatives at the community level;
- (c) whether the Government has established any standards to check the quality of tap water provided under the scheme and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **ANSWER**

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

(a) Since August, 2019, Government of India is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in partnership with States/ UTs to make provision of potable tap water supply in adequate quantity, of prescribed quality and on regular & long-term basis to every rural household in the country. The state-wise details of tap water connections, as on 24.03.2025, in the eastern part of the country including Odisha, are given below:

(Nos. in lakhs)

| S. No. | State/ UT   | Total<br>rural HHs | Rural HHs with tap<br>water connection as<br>on 15.08.2019 |      | Rural HHs with tap<br>water connections as<br>on 24.03.2025 |       |
|--------|-------------|--------------------|--|------|---|-------|
|        |             |                    | No.  | In % | No.   | In%   |
| 1.     | Bihar       | 167.55             | 3.16   | 1.89 | 160.36  | 95.71 |
| 2.     | Jharkhand   | 62.55              | 3.45   | 5.52 | 34.29   | 54.81 |
| 3.     | Odisha      | 88.69              | 3.11   | 3.51 | 67.94   | 76.59 |
| 4.     | West Bengal | 175.56             | 2.15   | 1.23 | 96.69   | 55.07 |

Source: JJM dashboard

(b) Water is a state subject and therefore, the primary responsibility for planning and implementing piped water supply schemes to provide tap water to rural households, lies with the respective State/UT Governments. Government of India supplements the efforts of the states by providing technical and financial assistance under JJM.

Apart from creating piped water supply infrastructure in rural areas, JJM also aims at building capacities of different stakeholders especially local communities, responsible and responsive leadership to own, manage, operate and maintain in-village water supply systems. For this, JJM has made provision of up to 5% of annual allocation to the states as support activities fund. This fund is utilized by the states for various support activities which *inter-alia* includes Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities aimed at bringing positive behavioural changes among stakeholders with respect to judicious use of water, health and hygiene aspects. All the States/ UTs have been advised to promote IEC activities among stakeholders to make JJM a 'Jan Andolan'.

Further, Ministry of Jal Shakti has launched various editions of Jal Shakti Abhiyaan – Catch the Rain (JSA-CTR) campaign which focus on water conservation and rainwater harvesting structures, renovation of traditional water bodies, reuse and recharge structures. Recently, on the 22 March 2025, the new edition of Jal Shakti Abhiyan was launched across the country themed "Peoples' Action for Water Conservation - Towards Intensified Community Connect" with special emphasis on 148 focus districts. The initiative promotes water conservation, rainwater harvesting, and sustainable resource management through community participation and scientific interventions.

- (c) Under JJM, as per existing guidelines, Bureau of Indian Standards' BIS:10500 are adopted as benchmark for quality of water being supplied through the piped water supply schemes. Further, BIS specifies 'acceptable limit 'and 'permissible limit in the absence of alternate source for various physio-chemical and bacteriological parameters for drinking water quality.
- (d) Doesn't arise.

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