GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI
DEPARTMENT OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 184
ANSWERED ON 12/02/2026

TESTING OF DRINKING WATER SAMPLES IN KARNATAKA

*184. SHRI G KUMAR NAIK:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether any independent testing of drinking water samples has been conducted in Karnataka during the last three years under various programmes of the Government and if so, the details thereof indicating the number of samples tested, year and district-wise;

(b) the number and proportion of drinking water samples in Karnataka found to be contaminated or non-compliant with prescribed quality standards during the said period, contaminant-wise including fluoride, arsenic, iron, nitrate, salinity and microbial contamination;

(c) whether remedial measures have not been taken in any affected areas in the State and if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to address contamination in affected areas in Karnataka; and

(e) whether any additional fiscal support or special funds have been provided to districts in Karnataka where water contamination has been found and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI
(SHRI C R PATIL)

(a) to (e): A Statement of reply is laid on the table of the House.

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Statement referred to in the reply to parts (a) to (e) in respect of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.*184 answered on 12/02/2026 regarding "Testing of Drinking Water Samples in Karnataka" asked by Shri G Kumar Naik.

(a) to (e) Drinking Water being a State subject, the responsibility of Planning, Designing, Approval, Implementation, Operation & Maintenance of drinking water supply schemes, including those under the Jal Jeevan Mission, is vested with State/UT Governments. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the States by providing technical and financial assistance. As reported by the state of Karnataka, testing of drinking water samples has been conducted in Karnataka during the last three years under Jal Jeevan Mission. Details of district wise samples tested in the last three years is enclosed in the **Annexure-1.**

As reported by the State, the detail of number and proportion of drinking water samples in Karnataka found to be contaminated or non-compliant with respect to prescribed quality standards during 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26 (as on date) are as under:

Year	No. of samples tested in laboratory		No. of samples found non-compliant with prescribed quality standards	
	Tested for chemical parameters	Tested for bacteriological parameters	No. of samples with chemical contamination	No. of samples with bacteriological contamination
2023-24	251763	46309	24917	4670
2024-25	272166	118079	17261	2574
2025-26 (as on date)	196194	50134	10911	452

Further, the details of contaminant-wise (including fluoride, arsenic, iron, nitrate, salinity and microbial) contamination are enclosed in the **Annexures 2(a), 2(b)** and **2(c).**

The state of Karnataka has reported that remedial measures have been taken on regular basis pertaining to the findings of water quality reports followed by confirmatory test and routine disinfection and cleaning of OHTs are consistently carried out. Further, formation of TASK FORCE Committee at District and Taluk level to overview water quality has been reported and SOP have been issued from the State Department of Karnataka.

As reported by States/UTs, as on 10.02.2026, there are 2,870 drinking water quality testing laboratories (including 107 in Karnataka) at different levels viz. State, regional, district, sub-division, block, mobile and/ or WTP facility laboratories out of which 1,707 are accredited/ recognised (including 80 in Karnataka).

Under the Jal Jeevan Mission, as per existing guidelines, Bureau of Indian Standards' BIS:10500 standards are adopted as benchmark for quality of water being supplied through the piped water supply schemes. Under JJM, while planning water supply schemes to provide tap water supply to households, priority is given to habitations affected by chemical contaminants. 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. Moreover, States/ UTs have also been advised to undertake testing of water quality on a periodic basis and take remedial action wherever necessary, to ensure that the water supplied to households is of prescribed quality.

Under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), purely as an interim measure, States/ UTs have been advised to install community water purification plants (CWPPs) especially in water quality affected habitations to provide potable water to every household at the rate of 8–10 litre per capita per day (lpcd) to meet their drinking and cooking requirements.

To enable the States/ UTs for online reporting of water quality monitoring and surveillance including test reports of water samples for water quality, sample collection etc. for drinking water, an online JJM – Water Quality Management Information System (WQMIS) portal has also been developed. The State–wise details of water quality test reported through WQMIS are available in public domain and can be accessed at: https://ejalshakti.gov.in/WQMIS/Main/report

In consultation with various stakeholders 'Concise Handbook for Monitoring Water Quality of Piped Drinking Water Supply to Rural Households' has been released in December 2024 for guidance to States/ UT's. This handbook recommended for a comprehensive testing of drinking water samples at various testing points such as source, treatment plant, storage and distribution points, and remedial action wherever necessary, to ensure that the water supplied to households is of prescribed quality.

As per the Operational Guidelines, States/ UTs can utilize up to 2% of their annual allocation of funds under JJM for Water Quality Monitoring & Surveillance (WQM&S) activities, inter-alia, which includes setting up and strengthening of water quality testing laboratories, procurement of equipment, instruments, chemicals, glassware, consumables, hiring of skilled manpower, surveillance by community using field test kits (FTKs), awareness generation, educational programmes on water quality, accreditation/recognition of laboratories, etc.

As reported by the state of Karnataka, externally aided project funds under the Karnataka Sustainable Rural Water Supply Project (Programme Period 2023-2028) have been allocated for the installation of bacteriological disinfection system and the maintenance of laboratories.

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Annexure-1

Annexure referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No.*184 answered on 12.02.2026

Details of Samples Tested from Independent Agency				
S. No.	**District Name**	**2023-24**	**2024-25**	**2025-26**
1	Bagalkote	1050	152	0
2	Ballari	0	4114	1434
3	Belagavi	2666	27	0
4	Bengaluru Rural	3	2600	0
5	Bengaluru Urban	1785	19	0
6	Bidar	0	0	1188
7	Chamarajanagara	762	0	0
8	Chikkaballapura	3705	484	0
9	Chikkamagaluru	929	1244	0
10	Chitradurga	1512	0	0
11	Dakshina Kannada	0	0	0
12	Davangere	2263	4	0
13	Dharwad	580	13	0
14	Gadag	0	0	0
15	Hassan	3608	13	0
16	Haveri	2464	2	0
17	Kalaburagi	934	132	1347
18	Kodagu	759	0	0
19	Kolar	242	4138	0
20	Koppal	1716	0	0
21	Mandya	1984	409	0
22	Mysuru	1415	5265	0
23	Raichur	0	2282	1591
24	Ramanagara	2746	0	0
25	Shivamogga	1111	1537	0
26	Tumakuru	1921	0	0
27	Udupi	0	0	0
28	Uttara Kannada	0	0	0
29	Vijayanagar	1215	1	0
30	Vijayapura	1341	52	0
31	Yadgir	780	47	1225
Total		**37491**	**22535**	**6785**

Annexure 2(a)

Drinking water samples found contaminated or non-compliant with prescribed quality standard (contaminant-wise) during 2023-24

Annexure 2(a)										
2023-24										
S.No	Districts	Total Alkalinity	TDS	Total Hardness	Iron	Total Arsenic	Fluoride	Nitrate	E coli	Total Coliform
1	Bagalkote	24	109	241	2	0	181	75	161	174
2	Ballari	47	99	152	0	0	29	94	0	0
3	Belagavi	97	81	236	2	0	6	248	273	372
4	BENGALURU	0	0	3	0	0	4	1	0	0
5	Bengaluru Urban	0	5	45	0	0	0	27	338	444
6	Bidar	1	4	34	1	0	9	47	0	0
7	CHAMARAJANAGA	30	23	136	2	0	2	19	0	0
8	Chikkaballapura	7	0	13	34	0	389	563	404	838
9	CHIKKAMAGALUR	92	53	145	33	0	9	22	14	32
10	Chitradurga	166	76	220	4	0	437	504	0	106
11	Dakshina Kannada	0	2	4	121	0	1	0	0	1
12	Davangere	61	38	123	0	0	14	86	0	235
13	Dharwad	39	27	85	0	0	0	71	78	80
14	Gadag	5	53	84	6	0	27	92	0	0
15	Hassan	1	1	20	0	0	11	20	81	182
16	Haveri	12	55	219	4	0	17	90	0	220
17	Kalaburagi	102	50	144	0	0	70	128	84	85
18	Kodagu	1	0	1	0	0	0	9	0	0
19	Kolar	7	11	171	0	0	77	116	0	0
20	Koppal	31	73	278	1	0	104	296	0	1
21	Mandya	64	3	264	11	0	31	316	48	483
22	Mysuru	6	1	182	0	0	1	94	0	5
23	Raichur	69	164	252	12	0	320	262	0	10
24	RAMANAGARA	8	0	82	0	0	36	140	0	24
25	Shivamogga	1	1	1	0	0	10	0	35	57
26	TUMAKURU	108	15	349	20	0	211	300	0	140
27	Udupi	0	1	3	9	0	0	3	0	1
28	Uttara Kannada	0	4	10	55	0	2	11	0	0
29	Vijayanagar	48	27	78	3	0	75	28	0	60
30	VIJAYAPURA	129	91	302	1	0	196	340	117	126
31	Yadgir	9	3	14	1	0	0	1	56	60
Total		1165	1070	3891	322	0	2269	4003	1689	3736

Annexure 2(b)

Drinking water samples found contaminated or non-compliant with prescribed quality standard (contaminant-wise) during 2024-25

Annexure 2(b)										
	2024-25									
S.No	Districts	Total Alkalinity	TDS	Total Hardness	Iron	Total Arsenic	Fluoride	Nitrate	E coli	Total Coliform
1	Bagalkote	19	39	126	0	0	84	45	110	0
2	Ballari	8	58	70	0	0	8	48	42	0
3	Belagavi	112	91	259	2	0	3	302	6	0
4	BENGALURU	0	0	29	0	0	0	20	117	0
5	Bengaluru Urban	0	2	9	0	0	0	3	57	0
6	Bidar	3	5	25	0	0	20	15	0	0
7	CHAMARAJANA	7	6	74	1	0	0	0	45	0
8	Chikkaballapura	2	0	1	1	0	209	382	127	0
9	CHIKKAMAGAL	72	21	97	29	0	0	98	79	0
10	Chitradurga	87	40	138	1	0	252	231	0	0
11	Dakshina Kannada	0	1	2	87	0	0	0	0	0
12	Davangere	18	18	68	0	0	6	56	47	0
13	Dharwad	11	10	53	0	0	0	22	4	0
14	Gadag	2	51	64	0	0	28	47	0	0
15	Hassan	4	1	11	0	0	32	12	5	0
16	Haveri	0	24	119	0	0	7	36	0	0
17	Kalaburagi	84	36	122	1	0	25	83	13	0
18	Kodagu	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0
19	Kolar	7	11	122	0	0	72	87	380	0
20	Koppal	5	48	294	1	0	86	349	196	0
21	Mandya	65	3	236	3	0	28	373	201	0
22	Mysuru	4	5	223	0	0	1	21	235	0
23	Raichur	26	91	148	5	0	279	198	117	0
24	RAMANAGARA	9	2	68	0	0	39	134	0	0
25	Shivamogga	1	0	1	0	0	3	0	92	0
26	TUMAKURU	65	28	294	1	0	248	198	0	0
27	Udupi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
28	Uttara Kannada	0	3	7	20	0	0	7	4	0
29	Vijayanagar	5	9	5	0	0	8	0	0	0
30	VIJAYAPURA	44	87	346	0	0	209	359	9	0
31	Yadgir	23	29	29	2	0	0	0	6	0
Total		683	719	3040	155	0	1647	3129	1894	0

Drinking water samples found contaminated or non-compliant with prescribed quality standard (contaminant-wise) during 2025-26

Annexure 2(c)

2025-26

S.No	Districts	Total Alkalinity	TDS	Total Hardness	Iron	Total Arsenic	Fluoride	Nitrate	E coli	Total Coliform
1	Bagalkote	2	10	64	0	0	13	8	6	6
2	Ballari	0	37	38	0	0	6	12	42	42
3	Belagavi	82	65	184	3	0	4	230	6	6
4	BENGALURU	0	0	10	0	0	0	4	0	0
5	Bengaluru Urban	0	0	5	0	0	0	1	0	0
6	Bidar	1	5	35	0	0	28	34	48	48
7	CHAMARAJANAGA	3	5	49	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	Chikkaballapura	2	0	0	0	0	73	212	0	0
9	CHIKKAMAGALUR	26	3	63	8	0	5	71	36	36
10	Chitradurga	40	17	76	2	0	241	214	7	8
11	Dakshina Kannada	0	0	1	73	0	0	0	0	0
12	Davangere	14	15	57	0	0	5	26	1	1
13	Dharwad	0	10	42	0	0	0	22	0	0
14	Gadag	0	8	38	0	0	36	34	0	0
15	Hassan	0	0	1	0	0	5	4	0	0
16	Haveri	1	23	164	5	0	9	41	0	0
17	Kalaburagi	60	30	76	0	0	32	37	64	64
18	Kodagu	1	0	2	0	0	0	4	0	0
19	Kolar	0	3	57	0	0	107	70	1	1
20	Koppal	0	32	212	2	0	89	285	0	4
21	Mandya	36	17	142	7	0	25	336	0	0
22	Mysuru	5	2	131	0	0	0	9	0	0
23	Raichur	15	45	67	1	0	125	119	45	45
24	RAMANAGARA	6	0	40	0	0	85	117	0	0
25	Shivamogga	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
26	TUMAKURU	41	50	269	2	0	100	67	0	0
27	Udupi	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	2	3
28	Uttara Kannada	0	1	2	9	0	0	3	3	13
29	Vijayanagar	3	3	6	0	0	9	0	0	0
30	VIJAYAPURA	28	75	277	0	0	171	264	0	0
31	Yadgir	21	17	36	0	0	0	0	53	55
Total		387	473	2145	114	0	1169	2224	315	333