

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES  
(2023-24)**

**SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA**

**MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI – DEPARTMENT OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION**

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2023-24)**

**[Action Taken by the Government on the Observations / Recommendations contained in the  
Twenty-First Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Water Resources]**

**TWENTY EIGHTH REPORT**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

February, 2024/Magha, 1945 (Saka)

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**(Action Taken by the Government on the Observations / Recommendations contained in the  
Twenty-First Report on 'Demands for Grants (2023-24) of the Ministry of Jal Shakti -  
Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation**

*Presented to Lok Sabha on 06.02.2024  
Laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 06.02.2024*



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

February, 2024/Magha, 1945 (Saka)

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**COMPOSITION OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES  
(2023-24)**

**Shri Parbatbhai Savabhai Patel** - Chairperson

**LOK SABHA**

2. Shri Vijay Baghel
3. Shri Nihal Chand Chauhan
4. Shri Bhagirath Choudhary
5. Shri Chandra Prakash Choudhary
6. Shri Guman Singh Damor
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18. Shri Pratap Chandra Sarangi
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20. Shri D. K. Suresh
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**RAJYA SABHA**

22. Shri H. D. Devegowda
23. Shri Aneel Prasad Hegde
24. Smt. Mausam Noor
25. Shri Sharad Pawar
26. Shri V. Vijayendra Prasad
27. Shri Arun Singh
28. Sant Balbir Singh
29. Shri Pramod Tiwari
30. Dr. Ambumani Ramadoss
31. Vacant

**SECRETARIAT**

- |    |                      |   |                             |
|----|----------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. | Smt. Suman Arora     | - | Additional Secretary        |
| 2. | Shri Ajay Kumar Sood | - | Director                    |
| 3. | Shri P. Ashok        | - | Deputy Secretary            |
| 4. | Shri K. P. Kashyap   | - | Assistant Committee Officer |

## INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Water Resources (2023-24) having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present the Twenty Eighth Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations contained in their Twenty-First Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2023-24) of the Ministry of Jal Shakti - Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation.

2. The Twenty-First Report of the Committee was presented to Lok Sabha on 20 March 2023 and laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 17 March 2023. The Action Taken replies of the Government to all the recommendations contained in the Report were received in this Secretariat on 11 July, 2023.
3. The replies of the Government were examined and the Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their sitting held on 02.02.2024.
4. An analysis of the Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Twenty First Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee is given in Annexure-II.

**New Delhi**

**2 February, 2024,**  
**13 Magha, 1945 (Saka)**

**Parbatbhai Savabhai Patel**  
**Chairperson**  
**Standing Committee on Water**  
**Resources**

## **CHAPTER I**

### **REPORT**

This Report of the Standing Committee on Water Resources (2023-24) deals with the action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in their Twenty-First Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Jal Shakti (Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation) for the year 2023-24.

2. The Twenty-First Report was presented to Lok Sabha on 20.03.2023 and was laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 17.03.2023. The Report contained 17 Observations/Recommendations.

3. Action Taken Notes in respect of all the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Report have been received from the Government. These have been examined and categorized as follows:

- (i) Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government:

Serial Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15 and 16

Total:13  
**Chapter-II**

- (ii) Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of replies of the Government:

Serial No. NIL

Total: NIL  
**Chapter-III**

- (iii) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee:

Serial Nos. 5, 7, 13 and 17

Total:04  
**Chapter-IV**

- (iv) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited:

Serial No. NIL

Total: NIL  
**Chapter-V**

**4. The Committee desire that replies to recommendations made in the Chapter- I of this Report may be furnished to the Committee expeditiously.**

5. The Committee will now deal with action taken by the Government on some of their Observations/Recommendations that require reiteration or merit comments.

## **A. Special assistance to address resource crunch in States**

### **Recommendation No. 5 (Para No. 2.5)**

6. The Committee noted that one of the principal reasons for under utilization of funds was delay in release of matching State share. They found that five States viz. Haryana, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Odisha had utilized less than 25% of Central funds while three States of West Bengal, Karnataka and Manipur had utilized exactly 25% of the Central allocation for implementation of JJM. Lesser utilization of Central funds allocated under JJM had been attributed to States' inability in arranging funds during pandemic and associated lockdowns. The Committee believed that besides financial crunch, additional burden due to cost overrun has also handicapped States in releasing matching share timely for speedy implementation of projects/works under JJM, a pre requisite to achieve 100 percent coverage of Functional Household Tap Connection in rural areas. They noted that in order to provide financial support to State Governments, Special Assistance from the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) was extended to States for Capital Expenditure with an allocation of Rs. 1 lakh crore as 50-year interest free loan, out of which Rs. 4,000 crore had been earmarked for works under JJM in 2022-23. They further noted that the Department of Expenditure was the nodal agency in the matter and the States submitted requisite proposals directly to them and as such no data for fund utilization under the scheme was maintained in the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation. While praising the much needed step to provide financial succour to States, the Committee observe that so far noticeable impact on States' fund release had not been seen. The Committee therefore, recommended the Department to furnish the details of States availing the special assistance along with the size of the loan available under this scheme, the amount demanded, received and utilized for JJM by each of them since its launch, reasons for not availing, etc. They also recommended that Department should urge the States to avail this assistance to enable them to implement the JJM works expeditiously.

7. The Department in their action taken reply have stated as under :-

*“Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance is the nodal Department for releasing of special assistance to the States. As informed by D/o Expenditure, in 2022-23, an amount of Rs. 1289.80 Crore has been drawn by 13 States as assistance for Capital Investment under JJM. The details are at Annexure-II.*

*In 2023-24, Ministry of Finance earmarked 20% of funds allocated under Part-I of the Scheme (Rs. 1 lakh Crore) for Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) and Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. States are being encouraged to avail this special assistance for creating rural water supply infrastructure.”*

8. **The Committee are given to understand that the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance has provided an amount of Rs. 1289.80 crore to 13 States as assistance for capital investment under JJM during the year 2022-23. However, the Committee find that amongst the States of Haryana, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, West Bengal, Karnataka and Manipur, where so far Central funds under JJM could be utilised only upto the extent of 25 per cent due to inadequate funds under the States' share, only Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Manipur have availed this assistance. The Committee, therefore, believe that there is an urgent need to urge the remaining States too to avail of the capital investment assistance from the Ministry of Finance to enable them to finish the JJM works expeditiously. The Committee**



would also like to know the progress of implementation of JJM works in each of the above three States as on date.

**B. Supply of safe drinking water in quality affected habitations**

**Recommendation No.7 (Para 2.7)**

9. The Committee noted that out of 57,539 water quality affected habitations spread over 11 States, as reported on 15 August, 2019, quality of water supplied, had improved in 35,659 habitations as on 15 February, 2023. However, 21,880 habitations, out of which 652 habitations were affected with arsenic, 461 with Fluoride, 10,325 with Iron, 9,909 with Salinity, 509 with Nitrate and 89 with Heavy Metals, were yet to be provided with safe drinking water. While majority of habitations in arsenic and fluoride affected water supply areas have been covered with temporary arrangement of safe drinking water supply, no such measure had been taken in case of other contaminants. Since other contaminants could also cause health hazard, the Committee felt that these areas too needed to be covered by temporary measures to provide immediate relief to the remaining population living in 50% of quality affected habitations. They, therefore recommended the Department to impress upon the States the need to take measures which could provide immediate solution such as mobile water vans/tankers carrying safe and clean drinking water or installation of small water purification dispensers till all such habitants were provided piped drinking water from a good quality source besides taking measures for permanent solution of contamination problem under JJM. The Committee also desired to be apprised of the details of progress in coverage of quality affected habitations with permanent good quality functional tap water supply as on date.

10. The Department in their action taken reply have stated as under :-

*“Providing potable drinking water to quality-affected habitations is one of the priorities under Jal Jeevan Mission. States/ UTs have been advised to plan and implement piped water supply schemes of bulk water transfer based on safe water sources such as surface water sources or alternative safe ground water sources for the villages with water quality issues. As suggested, all States/ UTs have been advised from time to time to ensure expeditious implementation of piped water supply projects to provide potable tap water to every household in all quality-affected habitations. In Annual Action Plan for 2023-24 held in the month of February & March, 2023, all States/ UTs have planned to cover all the remaining water quality habitations. A weekly progress report for monitoring coverage of water quality affected habitations is reviewed and shared with States for expeditious coverage of the remaining habitations.*

*As planning, implementation and commissioning of piped water supply scheme based on a safe water source may take time, purely as an interim measure, States/ UTs have been advised to install community water purification plants (CWPPs) especially in Arsenic and Fluoride 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.*

*As reported by the States/ UTs, the water quality affected habitations have reduced from 21,880 in February, 2023 to 19,085 rural habitations as on 15.06.2023. Further, provision of CWPP has been made in all reported 582 Arsenic-affected and 420 Fluoride-affected habitations. The details of Water quality – affected habitations and their coverage with CWPP as on date is as under and the State/ UT wise details is at Annex-III:*

S. No.	Major Contaminants	No of quality-affected rural habitations	Covered with short term measures/ CWPP
1.	Fluoride	420	420
2.	Arsenic	582	582
3.	Iron	8,593	4
4.	Salinity	8,929	9
5.	Nitrate	475	9
6.	Heavy Metal	86	58
	Total	19,085	1,123

11. The Committee observe that as on 15.06.23, 19085 habitations are affected with water quality issues, out of which all 582 arsenic and 420 fluoride affected habitations have been covered by Community Water Purification Plans (CWPPs). However, a large number of habitations with other water contaminants are yet to be given alternate sources of good quality water. The replies have not indicated any effective measure to address water quality issue in the other affected habitations i.e. Iron, Salinity and Nitrate. The Committee would, therefore, like to be apprised of the detail of plan, if any, to cover these affected settlements with good quality functional tap water supply as soon as possible. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to coordinate with States/UTs for taking effective measures for reducing the number of habitations affected with Iron, Salinity and Nitrate contamination including setting up of CWPPs within three months of presentation of this report.

**C. Timely preparation of Annual Implementation Plans (AIPs)**

**Recommendation No. 11 (Para 2.11)**

12. The Committee found that Annual Implementation Plans (AIPs) were the blueprints for impending works to be undertaken in the next financial year. They noted that consolidated AIPs of the States/UTs were discussed in the meetings of Plan Appraisal Committee with individual States in February-March of previous financial year. Thereafter, National Scheme Sanctioning Committee of SBM(G) approved the AIP by the commencement of the concerned financial year for allocation of funds to the States. They noted that the process of considering Annual Implementation Plans (AIPs) for 2023-24 had been started and States had been requested to submit AIPs for 2023-24 under SBM(G). However, taking note of the fact that there was a big deviation in the activities/projects/works to be undertaken as envisaged under AIPs and actual progress of works, the Committee found that these plans were not in tune with ground reality. As a result, these plans lost their sanctity, since the initial commitment to take up the proposed works visualised during preparation of AIPs, was not realised. Since, these plans were an amalgamation of Village/Block/District Action Plans, following bottom up approach, the Committee believe that monitoring of progress at these levels should be ensured and reasons for deviation, if any, should be recorded and redressed at each level. Another important factor in realisation of goals as planned under AIPs was timely preparation and approval of AIPs, preferably before the closing of financial year so that funds could be released with the commencement of new financial year and the projects could be implemented as planned. The Committee therefore, recommended the Department, to review the process of AIP formulation to enable release of funds from first week of April.

13. The Department in their action taken reply have stated as under :-

“Meetings of Plan Appraisal Committee to discuss the SBM(G) Annual Implementation Plans (AIPs) 2023-24 of all States/UTs were held under the chairmanship of Secretary, DDWS from 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2023 to 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2023 at DDWS, New Delhi. Meeting of National Scheme Sanctioning Committee (NSSC) of Phase-II of SBM(G) was held on 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2023 under the Chairmanship of Secretary (DWS) to consider the AIPs of the States/UTs under SBM(G) for 2023-24 for approval. The AIPs of all the States/UTs were discussed and approved in the meeting held on 28.03.2023. Hence, the Department has been in the position for releasing funds to the States/UTs from the month of April, 2023 onwards. However, release of funds also requires fulfillment of various others conditions as per the instruction issued by Ministry of Finance such as meeting requisite percentage of expenditure, release of funds from State Treasury to State Nodal Agency, compliances of various data entry in PFMS, etc. and conditions given in the scheme guidelines. For this, DDWS is regularly pursuing with the States to expedite expenditure and fulfill the requisite conditions for release so that the funds can be released to the States at the earliest.”

**14. The Committee have been informed that the National Scheme Sanctioning Committee met on 28 March, 2023 wherein AIPs of all the States/UTs were discussed and approved. They however, notice from the Department’s submission that release of funds also requires fulfillment of various others conditions as per the instruction issued by Ministry of Finance such as meeting requisite percentage of expenditure, release of funds from State Treasury to State Nodal Agency, compliances of various data entry in Public Financial Management System (PFMS), etc. and conditions given in the scheme guidelines. In view of the Committee, the AIPs need to be approved well ahead i.e. by beginning of March, so that other conditions stipulated for fund release as stated above could be complied with. The Committee , therefore, reiterate their recommendation that the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation should review the process of AIP formulation so as to finalise and approve it well in time to enable release of funds from first week of April.**

**D. Financial performance under SBM(G) II**

**Recommendation No.12 (Para No. 2.12)**

15. The Committee found that the trend of under utilisation during the last three years, highlighted by them in their earlier reports on Demands for Grants, had continued to be noticed in 2022-23 as well. They noted that during the last three years, the Department had not been able to utilise the revised budget allocation despite reduction by approximately 60% in the years 2020-21 and 2021-22 and 69% in 2022-23 at RE stage, while the utilisations were stated to be 82.47% in 2020-21, 51.86% in 2021-22 and 57.53% in 2022-23 (till 9 February, 2023). However, around 15 to 17% of this utilisation had been towards interest payment for Extra Budgetary Resources (EBR) which was to the tune of Rs. 1031.03 (17.18%) in 2020-21, Rs. 1032.89 (17.21%) in 2020-21 and Rs. 771.99 (15.44%) in 2022-23 till 9 February, 2023. This showed the effective utilisation of funds had been even lesser. Keeping in view the physical and financial performance of phase II of the Scheme, the Committee recommended the Department to intensify their efforts on issues/challenges withholding the execution of works/activities and pursue more vigorously with the concerned agencies and State Governments for accomplishment of goals within the targeted period.

16. The Department in their action taken reply have stated as under :-

“In order to ensure that funds allocated under the programme are utilized by the States/UTs efficiently and effectively, detailed discussions were held in March, 2023 with all the States/UTs individually on their Annual Implementation Plans (AIPs) for the year 2023-24. States were advised to ensure that the targets set by them are in line with achieving the goal of the programme by the set timelines. Suggestions were also given to the States/UTs for expeditious implementation of the AIP. Regular review meetings are also being held regularly with Chief Secretaries and Principal Secretaries of the nodal departments in the States/UTs for expeditious implementation of the programme and effective utilization of funds.”.

**17. The Committee note that regular review meetings are being held with the Chief Secretaries and Principal Secretaries of the nodal Departments to expedite implementation of programmes under SBM(G) II and utilization of allocated funds efficiently and effectively by the States/UTs. However, the Committee would like to be apprised of the result of such engagements with the States in terms of improvement in utilization of funds allocated under SBM(G) II. They would also like to be apprised of the details of funds allocated and utilized till date during the current financial year.**

**E. Release of State share of funds for various activities under SBM (G) II**

**Recommendation No.13 (Para No. 2.13)**

18. The Committee noticed that as per the guidelines of the Ministry of Finance regarding procedure for release of funds under Centrally Sponsored Schemes, Centre share funds were to be released from Treasury to Single Nodal Account (SNA) of the schemes within 21 days of its receipt in the Treasury and corresponding State share funds were to be released within 40 days of receipt of Centre share. However, as per the facts submitted by the Department, 10 States such as Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Kerala, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal had reported delays in releasing funds, varying for a period of 67 to 165 days in the year 2022-23, affecting execution of projects. Since, timely release of funds from both Central and State Governments can only ensure timely utilisation, the Committee recommended the Department to apprise them about the reason and the steps taken to address them including addressing the issue of resource crunch of the States.

19. The Department in their action taken reply have stated as under :-

“The delay for releasing the funds from Treasury to SNA account was taken up with the concerned States. So far 5 states have communicated the reason for delay in transfer of funds from Treasury to SNA. Details are attached at Annexure-IV

Further, this department has time and again issued advisory for releasing of funds from Treasury to SNA. Now, Ministry of Finance has decided to charge interest with effect from 01/04/2023 on the number of days of delay beyond 30 days in transfer of central share to the SNA account @ 7% p.a. No further funds will be released from Centre to States until the earlier released funds are transferred from State Treasury to SNA. The instructions of MoF has been communicated to Chief Secretaries/ State Finance Secretaries for strict compliance”

20. The Committee observe that out of 5 States submission regarding reasons for delay in transfer of funds from treasury to Single Nodal Account (SNA) problem of resource and crunch has been cited by Nagaland while law and order situation has been cited by Manipur. Other States such as West Bengal has stated the procedural delays at finance department to be the reason and Kerala has stated the reason to be re-appropriation of the State budget allocation for the financial year 2022-23. The Committee further note that to ensure timely release of funds from Treasury to Single Nodal Account (SNA), Chief Secretaries / State Finance Secretaries have been informed about the recent instructions of the Ministry of Finance that interest will be charged at the rate of 7% per annum in case of delay of more than 30 days in transfer of Central share to the SNA account with effect from 01/04/2023. Since, the delay in transfer of funds to SNA is a major problem in fund utilization, affecting the work, the Committee would, however, recommend to the Department to further analyse the problem and help States to better utilize the available Central assistance. The Committee believe that while levying of 7 percent interest would certainly create a deterrence to deliberate delays on smaller grounds, genuine resource constraints with States may further be aggravated due to this arrangement. Instead of penal provision, sincere efforts at utilization of funds should be encouraged as an incentive. The Committee would, therefore, recommend to the Department to devise ways to incentivize States to ensure timely release of funds so that central assistance under JJM could be utilized fruitfully. The Committee desire to be apprised of the amount of funds transferred to SNA by each of the States since April, 2023 along the number of States in whose case funds have been released, stopped or interest recovered.

**F. Plastic waste management in villages**

**Recommendation No. 17 (Para 2.17)**

21. The Committee noted that one of the objectives of phase II of SBM(G) is to make villages 'visually clean' by ensuring minimal littering, minimal stagnation of water and no accumulation of plastic waste in the form of a dump. The Committee were of the view that plastic waste disposal is one of the important dimensions in bringing about cleanliness. They noted that to fulfill this objective, Gram Panchayatas (GPs) have been assigned the task of arrangement for door-to-door collection of plastic waste along with other waste, segregation & storage of plastic waste at the common village shed constructed/available in the village, selling recyclable plastic waste to vendors and sending remaining plastic waste to the block level Plastic Waste Management Units (PWMUs). They further noted that funding support of Rs. 16 lakhs per block was provided for setting up PWMUs. However, so far 7% of all the blocks in the country had been equipped with PWMUs. The Committee were happy to note that amongst all the States/UTs, Odisha, Tamil Nadu and Ladakh had made good progress in creating plastic waste management facility with 72%, 42% and 48% of the blocks covered respectively in these States. In view of the growing menace of plastic wastes which create environmental hazards and also create a filthy look in the form of heaps, the Committee recommended for expediting establishment of PWMUs in all the blocks of the country to realize the objective of visually clean villages. Also, facility for door to door collection of waste and its segregation, being the first step, the Committee recommended for creating monitoring mechanism including physical verification of such facility at block/ district level officers in those villages which had been certified as ODF plus villages. They desired to be apprised of the details of existing ODF plus villages where door to door facility of waste creation and segregation had been created, frequency of such collection and verification mechanism for the same.

22. The Department in their action taken reply have stated as under :-

*“As per the Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) Phase-II operational guideline, there must be one Plastic Waste Management Unit in each block, if clustering is not possible. This was again reiterated during the Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) meeting for all States and UTs to have Plastic Waste Management Units at the Blocks levels. In AIP of FY 2023-24, States and UTs have planned to setup PWMUs/linkages of blocks with urban facilities in over 3700 Blocks. As reported by States on IMIS, over 950 blocks in the country have been equipped with Plastic Waste Management Unit (PWMU) or linked with Urban Plastic Waste Management Facilities. State/UT-wise, Total blocks and no. of blocks with Plastic Waste Management Unit (PWMU) are at Annexure-V.*

*States/UTs have been advised via letter no. S-11011/20/2022-SBM-DDWS(Part-4) dated 21<sup>st</sup> June 2022 to carry out mandatory third-party verification for ODF Plus (Model category) villages. The States can also undertake supervisory verifications for the ODF Plus villages across all categories (Aspiring/Rising/Model) by the officer responsible in the chain of command at Block/District/State level.*

*As reported by States/UTs on IMIS of SBM(G), over 1,32,027 ODF Plus villages are having Vehicle for Collection of Waste in the country, where solid waste is being collected from all households/common points/community bins at regular intervals. States/UTs have been advised to carry out mandatory third-party verification for ODF Plus (Model category) villages.”*

**23. The Committee note that out of approximately 3700 blocks in which Plastic Waste Management Units (PWMUs), have been planned to be set up, so far only 950 blocks have been equipped with Plastic Waste Management Unit (PWMU) or linked with Urban Plastic Waste Management Facilities which shows that much of the installation work is yet to be taken up. Further, in many big States such as Assam, Bihar, Chattisgarh , Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir , Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Telangana, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, PWMUs have been established in very few blocks. Since Plastic waste is a serious threat to the environment with a great potential to risk public health, the Committee would like to be apprised of the reasons for slow progress in installing PWMUs in these States and the steps taken by the Department to impress upon the States the need to set up and operationalise PWMUs expeditiously.**

**CHAPTER – II**  
**OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE**  
**GOVERNMENT**

**Recommendation No. 1 (Para No. 2.1)**

**Budget Analysis of the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation**

***Jal Jeevan Mission***

The Committee observe that “Drinking Water Supply” and “Sanitation” being State subjects, the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation of the Ministry of Jal Shakti has been mainly assigned the role of supplementing the efforts of the State Government to improve the rural drinking water supply and sanitation. The Department is providing technical and financial support through the Centrally sponsored schemes of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) and Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) [SBM(G)]. They note that the overall Budget allocation of the Department for the year 2023-24 has increased by Rs 10,001.88 crore (14.88%) over BE of 2022-23 (Rs 67,221.12) and by Rs. 17,193.88 crore (28.64%) over RE of 2022-23 (Rs 60,029.12). The Committee note that the Department’s actual utilization of funds has remained lower than RE allocation under both the flagship schemes during the last three fiscal years indicating that the projections of anticipated expenditure could not be realized on ground. However, the Department has continued to increase allocations at BE stage which has been subsequently revised downwards at RE stage and the actual releases were less than the anticipations. The Committee, therefore, are of the opinion that there is a need for more pragmatic analysis of future projections of activities to be undertaken and expenditures to be incurred based on States’ ability to utilize the funds. Besides, the underlying factors which have hampered the progress of implementation of the schemes so far, also need to be addressed to complete the schemes expeditiously. While appreciating the Government’s commitment to make provision of tap water for 19.36 crore households and sustainable sanitation in 5,97,399 villages, which indeed is a behemoth task and require both the partners, i.e. States and Centre to work together, the Committee are of the view that the specific constraints/hindrances which have impeded the implementation till now, need to be addressed for smooth implementation of both the schemes further. They, therefore, recommend the Department to apprise them of the specific action taken to expedite the implementation of schemes and improvement made in actual expenditure to make the laudable schemes of JJM and SBM (G), a success.

**REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT**

The details of fund allocated and utilized since inception of JJM in 2019 is as under:  
(Amount in Rs. Crore)

Year	BE	RE	Fund drawn by States	Total Fund utilized*
2019-2020	10,000.66	10,000.66	9,951.81	10,000.44
2020-2021	11,500.00	11,000.00	10,917.86	10,999.94
2021-2022	50,011.00	45,011.00	40,009.77	40,125.64
2022-2023	60,000.00	55,000.00	54,742.30	54,839.79
	Total	1,21,011.66	1,15,621.74	1,15,965.81 (96%)

\*including Department Level Activities

From the table, it is evident that the fund allocated for implementation of the JJM was almost utilized every year except in the year 2021-22.

To give impetus to the Mission for its time bound mission mode implementation, several meetings including conferences, workshops/ conferences/ webinars for capacity building and knowledge sharing, review meetings through video conferences, field visits, etc. at highest levels are being held by the Department from time to time with States/ UTs, wherein they have been advised to plan and expedite the implementation of the programme.

Further, Department has also identified 13 major States having more than 6.91 Crore (96%) of the remaining households (HHs) across the Country and has been regularly impressing upon them to prioritize the coverage of remaining HHs. Almost every month review meetings are being held at the level of Secretary (DDWS) with the Chief Secretaries, Addl. Chief Secretaries and Secretaries in-charge in these 13 States to review & expedite the progress under JJM, identify challenges being faced, sharing experiences and best practices, etc. Also Hon'ble Minister (Jal Shakti) is also taking up the matter with the Chief Ministers to review the implementation of mission in their respective States, make provision of requisite State share, inter-department coordination whenever required, etc. to implement the mission at speed and scale for achieving the goal in time bound manner.

### **Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen)**

Allocation and utilization during last year and current year under SBM(G) are as under :-

<b>Year</b>	<b>BE</b>	<b>RE</b>	<b>Rs. In crore Release</b>
2022-23	7192.00	5000.00	4925.15
2023-24	7192.00	7192.00	166.80

The following steps have been taken to expedite the implementation of SBM(G):

- Based on the inputs received from the States/UTs regarding challenges faced by them in implementation of the programme, scheme guidelines have been amended and clarifications have been issued to the States from time to time for smooth implementation of the programme.
- Recognizing the need to create a pool of competent human resources at the State and district levels to cater to Capacity Building, technical and managerial support needs of GPs, DDWS has started an initiative for creation of Master Trainers (MTs). The MTs further train Sarpanch/Swachhagrahi/Panchayat Secretaries on ODF plus and handhold GPs and villages to prepare their ODF plus village sanitation plans and implementing them. Till date a pool of 2901 Master Trainers (MTs) has been created in 26 States.
- DDWS is regularly updating and refreshing the knowledge of State level officials dealing with the programme through orientation programmes. Training programmes on different verticals have also been organised.
- A VC to discuss the progress on Phase- I of Light House Initiative was held on 15.03.2023 under the chairmanship of Joint Secretary & Mission Director, SBM(G) with the State Mission Directors and Corporate partners. Discussion was held to review the progress under the Light House Initiative with 15 States, challenges in the process of implementation and way forward for completing Phase I.
- Secretary (DWS) chaired Panel discussion on "Achieving ODF Plus Villages and Drinking Water in Rural Areas" in Consultative meeting of Aspirational districts and blocks organised by NITI



Aayog on 28th April, 2023 at Dr.Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi. AS & MD, JJM and JS and MD, SBM also made presentation. An exhibition on ODF Plus Model village was also organised.

- Ministry of Jal Shakti organised an event “Swachh Sujal Shakti Samman” on 4th March, 2023 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. Hon’ble President of India, Smt. DroupadiMurmu presented awards to women champions from the rural water and sanitation sector, recognising their contributions to the Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen (SBM-G), the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) and the Jal Shakti Abhiyan. The event was graced by Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Sh. Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Sh. DevusinhJesingbhai Chauhan, Minister of State for Communications, Sh. Prahlad Singh Patel, Minister of State for Jal Shakti, Food Processing Industry; Sh. BishweswarTudu, Minister of State for Jal Shakti, Tribal Affairs.
- Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation organised a review VC meeting on 06.03.2023 with the State Ministers in charge of Panchayati Raj, Rural Development and Rural Sanitation of all States/UTs to review the progress under SBM(G) Phase II. The VC was chaired by Hon’ble Minister, Ministry of Jal Shakti. The progress on ODF Plus was reviewed in details.
- Joint Review Meeting on the implementation of Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) and the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in Kerala was organised on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. The meeting was jointly chaired by the Hon’ble Minister, Jal Shakti and Chief Minister of Kerala. Team also visited some villages to get feedback from villages.
- Review Meeting on the implementation of Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) and the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in Jammu & Kashmir was organised on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at Jammu. The meeting was chaired by the LG, Jammu & Kashmir. Another meeting with District Collectors was chaired Secretary, Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation (DDWS), Government of India.
- Review Meeting on the implementation of Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) and the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in NE States was organised on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023 at Guwahati, Assam. The meeting was chaired by the Hon’ble Minister, Jal Shakti.
- Joint Review Meeting chaired by the Secretary, Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation (DDWS), Government of India and Chief Secretary of following States. The details are as under:

<b>Date</b>	<b>State</b>
5th April 2023	Karnataka
11th April 2023	Tamil Nadu
2 <sup>nd</sup> May, 2023	Manipur
5 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	Bihar
20 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	Odisha
6 <sup>th</sup> June 2023	Andhra Pradesh

- Orientation of Newly joined Addl. Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries/Secretaries in-charge of Rural Sanitation, Mission Directors and State Coordinators, SBM(G) was organised on 17th April, 2023 at DDWS, New Delhi through VC. Total 20 participants have attended the orientation.
- Besides, meetings with Addl. Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries/Secretaries in-charge of SBM(G) and Mission Directors of SBM-G of all States/UTs are organized on regular basis

**(OM No.H.11020/1/2023-Parliament-DDWS Dated: 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2023)**

## **Recommendation No. 2 (Para No. 2.2)**

### **Physical achievement of targets under Jal Jeevan Mission**

The Committee note that Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), being implemented in the States/UTs on a Mission Mode since August, 2019, has been successful in providing tap water supply in the homes of more than 11.15 crore (57.5%) rural households out of 19.36 crore rural households, as on date. They laud the achievement of 100 per cent coverage of all the rural households in the States/Union Territories of Haryana, Gujarat, Telangana, Goa, Puducherry, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu with functional tap water connections. They also appreciate that the States of Bihar, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh have been successful in providing functional tap water supply in more than 95 % households and hope that soon these States will also reach the milestone of complete coverage under JJM. The Committee note that still a major part of the work remains to be completed in the 13 focused States which include big States such as Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh having achieved only 29.56%, 30.21%, 30.30%, 30.53%, 31.58% and 38.81% coverage so far. They find that long gestation period of Multi Village Schemes, presence of contaminants in ground water, lack of dependable ground water sources in drought-prone & desert areas, terrain challenges in hilly & forested areas, nation-wide CoVID-19 pandemic, associated lockdown, etc. have substantially affected the pace of implementation of JJM in these States. The Department has informed that they have taken several steps such as joint discussion and finalization of Annual Action Plan (AAP) of States/ UTs, regular review of implementation, organising workshops/ conferences/ webinars for capacity building and knowledge sharing, field visits by multi-disciplinary team to provide technical support, regular review meetings at highest level for executing agencies/ Gram Panchayat and other stakeholders and provision for professional manpower augmentation at different levels including project management units, etc. the outcome in expediting the works is yet to be seen in majority of the States. The Committee are of the view that since States are the equal partners in successful implementation of the scheme, the specific problems in each of the States which are lagging behind, need to be examined. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to look into the State specific problems and devise suitable measures to fast track implementation of JJM to realise the objectives at the earliest.

### **REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT**

As stated above, 13 focused States have been identified where more than 96% of the remaining households (HHs) are to be covered. The Department is giving special focus on these States and regular follow-up is being held up with these States at the highest level to look into the State specific problems and devise suitable measures to fast track implementation of JJM. Further, National WASH Experts (NWEs) have been engaged for ground truthing, are visiting these focused States regularly and 345 field visits have been undertaken so far for handholding the States in the implementation of the programme. Through concerted efforts from the States, State Level Scheme Sanctioning Committees have already approved the works for providing tap water connections and States/ UTs are being repeatedly advised to award all the remaining works by 30.06.2023.

Further, to provide financial support to State Governments, Government of India through Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) is implementing a Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment with allocation of an amount of Rs. 1.30 lakh Crore for 2023-24, out of which an amount of Rs. 1 lakh Crore has been earmarked for Part-1 and 20 percent of the funds allocated under Part-I may be utilized by the States for contributing State's share for Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) and Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana for 2023-24.

With concerted efforts, so far, as reported by States/ UTs as on 15.06.2023, out of 19.46 Crore rural households in the country, more than 12.29 Crore (63%) households are reported to have tap water supply in their homes.

**(OM No.H.11020/1/2023-Parliament-DDWS Dated: 11<sup>th</sup>July, 2023)**

**Recommendation No. 3 (Para No. 2.3)**

**Implementation of JJM - Some practical issues**

The Committee note that in some States such as Maharashtra, where actual work started in 2021, surveys were conducted hastily without actually visiting households/physical survey done and uploading information through google images which has resulted in exclusion of many households in the villages, leading to faulty reporting of data on Integrated Management Information System (IMIS). Further, in many places, water supply schemes have been launched without proper assessment of the water supply source, causing practical difficulties in execution of piped supply of water. Similarly, though 87.46% of schools and 82.63% Anganwadi Centres are reported to have been provided with tap connections, actual availability of water through these taps needs to be verified on ground through physical verification. Though district nodal officers have been given the responsibility to enter district level data, which is further approved by State nodal officers and at national level, National WASH Experts (NEW) have been appointed since August, 2022, the Committee believe that the scheme could be successfully implemented only when local officials are given the verification work. Local monitoring on real time basis and reporting of functional piped water infrastructure would be a great step in preventing not only inconsistency in factual information but also provide a genuine feedback for adoption of corrective measures. For this, officers may be designated for each district on the lines of Area officers (designated for each State/UT) to facilitate monitoring of work at the ground level and ensure actual reporting of works undertaken. The Committee are of the opinion that in order to achieve the target of 100 percent coverage of village households with regular assured water supply within the prescribed period, these practical issues in implementation, if sorted out, would certainly make JJM a fruitful mission. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to look into these issues and take corrective steps in consultation with State Governments to redress these problems and apprise them of the details of such measures within three months of presentation of this Report.

**REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT**

For accuracy and consistency of the data reported by the States, the data entered by field level officers are verified/ authenticated by States at three levels viz., at the district level, State level and finally approved by the administrative Secretary in-charge of PHED/RWSS.

To holistically address the challenges being faced by the States, as suggested by the Committee, the Department has already nominated State/UT-wise area officers who are addressing the day to day issues being faced by the respective States. Further, Department has also nominated a nodal Officer for coordinating with Central nodal Ministries/ Departments/ agencies viz. M/o EF&CC, M/o RTH, NHAI, M/o Railways etc. to facilitate the States in obtaining Statutory/ other clearances. In addition, State Programme Management Units (SPMUs) and District Programme Management Units (DPMUs) have been set up to bridge the gap in the availability of technical skill sets and of HR for programme management, a network of Civil Society Organizations working in the water sector, the Rural WASH Partner Forum, has also been set up to extend support to states for time-bound implementation, the Jal Jeevan Survekshan 2023, a year-round programme, has also been launched

to focus on implementation and foster a spirit of healthy competition among States and Districts. Further, all sorts of technical and financial assistance are being extended to the States for expeditious implementation of the Mission.

Further, Secretary (DWS) has also reviewed the progress of the mission with Chief Secretaries of the States of Manipur, Bihar, Odisha, J&K, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh in last 5 months, wherein State and district officials were also sensitized for expeditious implementation and corrective action, wherever required.

**(OM No.H.11020/1/2023-Parliament-DDWS Dated: 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2023)**

**Recommendation No. 4 (Para No. 2.4)**

**Budget Allocation and Utilisation of funds under Jal Jeevan Mission**

The Committee find that an amount of Rs. 70,000 crore has been allocated under JJM at BE stage for 2023-24 which is an increase of Rs 10,000 crore (16.66%) over the Budget Estimate of 2022-23 and Rs. 15,000 crore (27.27%) over the Revised Estimate of 2022-23. However, till 13 February, 2023, the Department has been able to utilise only Rs. 34,628.52 crore by way of releases to the eligible States in 2022-23 which is 63% of the amount of Rs. 55000 crore allocated at RE 2022-23. On one hand, the target date for completion of implementation of JJM is approaching fast, continuous shortfall in actual expenditure is being observed since the fiscal year 2021-22 despite reduction in allocation at RE stage subsequently. While noting the submission of the Department that the pace of work under JJM will catch up in the next financial year, the Committee believe that unless the remaining works are executed on war footing, the target of bringing all rural households under the network of functional tap water in adequate quantity (55 lpcd) of prescribed quality on regular basis may not be achieved by 31.12.2024. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to take immediate steps to enable maximum utilisation of funds allocated under JJM.

**Reply of the Government**

The details of fund allocated and utilized since inception of JJM in 2019 is as under:

*(Amount in Rs. Crore)*

Year	Budget Allocated	Fund utilized
2019-2020	10,000.66	10,000.44
2020-2021	11,000.00	10,999.94
2021-2022	45,011.00	40,125.64
2022-2023	55,000.00	54,839.79

From the table, it is evident that almost entire budget (RE) was utilized in 2022-23, for implementation of the Mission.

**(OM No.H.11020/1/2023-Parliament-DDWS Dated: 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2023)**

### ***Recommendation No.6 (Para No. 2.6)***

#### **Provision of funds for operation and maintenance of water supply infrastructure**

The Committee are given to understand that under Jal Jeevan Mission, Gram Panchayats (GPs) or its sub-committees have to ensure collection of user charges and plan utilization of funds available from other sources for operation & maintenance (O&M) of water supply infrastructure. They note that for sustainable operation & maintenance of water supply schemes, provision has been made under JJM to reward/ incentivize the community in a phased-manner after the commissioning of the scheme to the tune of 10% of the capital expenditure on their respective in-village water supply scheme. This would serve as a 'revolving fund' to meet expenses on O&M of the scheme. While appreciating the intent of entrusting a sense of ownership and responsibility through the provision of collection of user charges for sustainable O&M of water supply infrastructure, the Committee take note of the fact that in reality, Village Water and Sanitation Committees are not empowered to collect user charges and the authority designated to levy and collect user charges being not clear, GPs are not collecting user charges at all. Moreover, they note that standard mechanism for transfer of assets to GPs, especially in case of new assets created under single village system for supply of water through pipeline has not been prescribed. In such state of affairs, there is no perpetual source of funds available to take care of repairing and maintenance works. The Committee would, therefore, recommend the Department to chalk out a standard handing over/ delivery procedure to GPs after the infrastructure/asset for supply of piped water is created to enable efficient service delivery and maintenance.

### **REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT**

Through operational guidelines for the implementation of the Mission, State Government have been advised to issue a notification under Panchayati Raj (PR) Act, to empower Gram Panchayat and/ or its sub-committee, i.e. VWSC/ Paani Samiti/ User Group, etc. to plan, implement, manage, operate and maintain in-village water supply system inter alia which includes powers, responsibilities, internal processes, composition of VWSC/ Paani samiti, etc., power to decide, levy, collect water service charges, etc.

Further, standard mechanism for transfer, operation and maintenance of rural water supply infrastructure after successful commissioning of the scheme has already been devised and communicated through a special Margdarshika for Gram Panchayats & VWSCs to provide safe drinking water in rural households.

Further, considering the importance of comprehensive operation and maintenance policy for long term operationalization of rural water supply infrastructure created under the Mission, States are being encouraged to frame an O&M policy. As reported, O&M Policy has so far been notified in 10 States/ UTs.

**(OM No.H.11020/1/2023-Parliament-DDWS Dated: 11<sup>th</sup>July, 2023)**

### ***Recommendation No. 8 (Para No. 2.8)***

#### **Separating water supply service and quality check**

The Committee note that Water Supply/ Water & Sanitation/ Public Health Engineering Departments and/or parastatal organization of respective State Government/ UT Administration are responsible for making provision of water supply and ensuring quality of water supplied in their respective State/ UT. They further note that as per the Drinking Water Quality Monitoring & Surveillance Framework, the States need to decouple the functions of the water service delivery and

water quality testing to develop trust, transparency and accountability. In this regard, the Committee also note the submission of the Department regarding existing challenges in providing good quality drinking water such as no regular water quality testing of drinking water sources, unhygienic environment around public water supply delivery point, lack of innovative technology to monitor quality of water supplied, etc. Though water quality testing laboratories have been established and Field Test Kits (FTKs) are being used for monitoring water quality, these are still not sufficient to meet the testing requirements. The Committee are, therefore, of the view that entrusting the task of water supply and monitoring of water quality supplied to separate agencies would be a big advantage in ensuring availability of good quality water. They, therefore, recommend the Department to reinforce this aspect and urge the State Governments to take steps for separation of water supply service and its monitoring. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken in this regard at the earliest.

### **REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT**

In consultation with various stakeholders, 'Drinking Water Quality Monitoring & Surveillance Framework' has been released for guidance of officials of States/ UTs and local village level functionaries to expand the water quality testing and reporting, surveillance of drinking water sources, sanitary surveys, setting up of laboratories, etc. The framework inter alia includes institutional framework that can strengthen laboratories, roles and responsibilities of PHED/ RWS departments and laboratories, monitoring framework for quality, accreditation/ recognition process, etc.

As per the framework, State is to set up Drinking Water Quality Commissionerate, with Chief Chemist of the State/ UT as its nodal officer for separation between water supply delivery and water quality testing services.

As reported, 62.79 lakh samples in 4.77 lakh villages and 107.83 lakh samples using FTKs from 3.72 lakh (61.92%) villages have been tested during 2022-23. Further, 5.39 lakh (90%) villages have been tested for chemical parameters and 4.47 lakh (75%) villages have been tested for bacteriological parameters (post monsoon).

Moreover, as water quality monitoring and surveillance is a continuous process that require sustained efforts, Swachh Jal se Suraksha (SJSS) Campaign was organized from 2nd October, 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 to ensure quality of drinking water by taking up various water quality monitoring and surveillance activities. The findings during the campaign have been shared with States/ UTs for taking further necessary action.

**(OM No.H.11020/1/2023-Parliament-DDWS Dated: 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2023)**

### ***Recommendation No. 9 (Para No. 2.9)***

#### **Increasing the network of National Accreditation Board for testing and calibration Laboratories (NABL) accredited water quality testing laboratories**

The Committee note that accreditation/recognition of drinking water quality testing laboratories at least for parameters of basic water quality as per ISO/IEC 17025 has been emphasised under JJM. They note that as on 13.02.2023, there are 2,076 drinking water quality testing laboratories at State, District, sub-division and/ or block levels out of which 1,067 laboratories are accredited/ recognized. However, they find that in some of the States, such as in Jharkhand, Punjab, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, compared to district level, very few water quality testing laboratories have been set up at

Block level. Also approximately 50% of the laboratories are accredited by NABL so far. Although, 2% of the allocations can be utilized by States for Water Quality Monitoring & Surveillance, the Committee find that creation of state of the art water quality testing laboratories is yet to achieve a momentum for ensuring good quality potable water in villages. The Committee would, therefore, recommend the Department to take utmost measures in this regard so that the network of recognised/accredited water quality testing laboratories is spread across the country.

### **REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT**

The recommendations of the Committee are well noted and the Department, in partnership with States, is committed to provide safe drinking water of prescribed quality (BIS:10500) to every rural household. Accordingly, for setting up and strengthening of water quality testing laboratories, States/ UTs can utilize upto 2% of their annual allocation of funds for WQM&S activities inter alia which includes procurement of equipment, instruments, chemicals, glassware, consumables, hiring of skilled manpower, accreditation/ recognition of laboratories, etc. This fund can now also be used by States towards building cost for setting up a new laboratory at regional, district, sub-divisional/ block levels, NABL accreditation of laboratories engaged under Public-Private Partnership (PPP) or public-public partnership.

All States/ UTs have also been advised that all district must have district level laboratory. In bigger States, at the regional level, district level lab should be upgraded into State level lab in different regions of the State.

States/ UTs are encouraged to explore the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) or public-public partnership involving laboratories from different institutions. Under Public-Private Partnership, the PHE/ RWS Department may collaborate with NABL/ ISO/ other suitably accredited water quality testing private laboratories, as support organizations. Under the Public-Public Partnership, PHE/ RWS Department may collaborate with water quality testing laboratories of other/ similar State/ UT/ Central Government agencies, i.e., Central Pollution Control Board/ Central Water Commission/ Central Ground Water Board, State Pollution Control Boards/ laboratories under Public Health Centres/ Community Health Centres.

Also, 'Drinking Water Quality Monitoring & Surveillance Framework' has been firmed up in consultation with various stakeholders and has been released as a guiding tool for setting up/ strengthening the drinking water quality testing laboratories and providing technical support to implementing agencies for labs institutional framework; required infrastructure, manpower/ experts, equipment, staff qualification & experience; roles & responsibilities of laboratory personnel; laboratory gap assessment & improvement plan; NABL accreditation/ recognition process etc.

In order to ensure that the labs are equipped with facilities, States have been advised for accreditation of Drinking Water Quality Testing Laboratories as per IS/ISO/IEC:17025 at least for parameters of basic water quality importance and gradually upgrading to other parameters as per local conditions.

As reported by States/UTs, as on 15.06.2023, there are 2,086 drinking water quality testing laboratories at different levels viz. State, regional/ district, sub-division and/ or block level, mobile level in the country. Out of these, 1,253 laboratories are accredited/ recognized. State/ UT wise list is at Annex-III.

**(OM No.H.11020/1/2023-Parliament-DDWS Dated: 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2023)**

### ***Recommendation No. 10 (Para No. 2.10)***

#### **Physical performance of SBM(G) II**

The Committee note that Open Defecation Free (ODF) sustainability and Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM) in the rural areas apart from construction of Individual Household Latrines (IHHLs) and Community Sanitary Complexes (CSCs) as per the demand are the main pivots of SBM(G) II. However, so far, the performance of phase II of SBM(G) has been lackluster due to reasons such as initial planning, not having the required technical competence and prevalence of pandemic, etc. As a result, goals in terms of improvement in quantitative (SLWM and construction of IHHLs and CSCs) and qualitative (ODF sustainability) indicators, remains to be far from achievement, as so far, out of 5,97,399 villages, solid waste management facility has been created in 1,40,213 villages, liquid waste management facility in 1,50,107 villages and 1,95,647 villages have achieved ODF plus status. The Committee note that particularly 10 States/UTs viz. Manipur, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, West Bengal, Punjab, Tripura, Meghalaya, Jharkhand, Maharashtra and Ladakh have registered very slow progress under the scheme due to above factors as well as State specific issues such as remote areas, difficult terrain, hydro geological conditions, etc. Though the Department has taken several steps such as provision of 3% of the programme funds allocated for Information Education and Communication (IEC) and capacity building, joint advisories for effective convergence at ground level, creation of Master Trainers (MTs) to train on ODF plus and handhold GPs and villages to prepare their ODF plus village sanitation plans and implementing them, training and orientation programme for State level officials and manual for utilization of 15th Finance Commission tied grants, etc. to enable States to implement works for sustainable management of waste and maintenance of ODF status, the Committee are of the opinion that there is a need for more proactive engagement with States and implementing agencies to speed up the progress for yielding desired results.

### **REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT**

DDWS is continuously pursuing with the States and supporting them so that implementation of the programme can be speeded up at ground level. Regular review meetings, technical workshops with the States/UTs are being conducted. For each State/UT, an officer (at Deputy Secretary and Director levels) have been made area officer who regularly gets in touch with the States to review the programme and to know the issues being faced by the State/UT in implementation of the programme. Secretary (DDWS), Joint Secretary & Mission Director (SBM-G) and area officers in the Department regularly undertake visits to the States to see the progress at ground level. The engagement with the States/UTs is being continuous and vigorous review of implementation of the programme is being done through review meetings, reports, MIS etc.

**(OM No.H.11020/1/2023-Parliament-DDWS Dated: 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2023)**

### ***Recommendation No. 11 (Para No. 2.11)***

#### **Timely preparation of Annual Implementation Plans (AIPs)**

The Committee find that AIPs are the blueprints for impending works to be undertaken in the next financial year. They note that consolidated AIPs of the States/UTs were discussed in the meetings of Plan Appraisal Committee with individual States in February-March of previous financial year. Thereafter, National Scheme Sanctioning Committee of SBM(G) approves the AIP by the commencement of the concerned financial year for allocation of funds to the States. They note that



the process of considering Annual Implementation Plans (AIP) for 2023-24 has been started and States have been requested to submit AIPs for 2023-24 under SBM(G). However, taking note of the fact that there is a big deviation in the activities/projects/works to be undertaken as envisaged under AIPs and actual progress of works, the Committee find that these plans are not in tune with ground reality. As a result, these plans loose their sanctity, since the initial commitment to take up the proposed works visualised during preparation of AIP, is not realised. Since, these plans are an amalgamation of Village/Block/District Action Plans, following bottom up approach, the Committee believe that monitoring of progress at these levels should be ensured and reasons for deviation, if any, should be recorded and redressed at each level. Another important factor in realisation of goals as planned under AIPs is timely preparation and approval of AIPs, preferably before the closing of financial year so that funds could be released with the commencement of new financial year and the projects could be implemented as planned. The Committee therefore, recommend the Department, to review the process of AIP formulation to enable release of funds from first week of April.

### **REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT**

Meetings of Plan Appraisal Committee to discuss the SBM(G) Annual Implementation Plans (AIPs) 2023-24 of all States/UTs were held under the chairmanship of Secretary, DDWS from 28<sup>th</sup>February, 2023 to 27th March, 2023 at DDWS, New Delhi. Meeting of National Scheme Sanctioning Committee (NSSC) of Phase-II of SBM(G) was held on 28th March, 2023 under the Chairmanship of Secretary (DWS) to consider the AIPs of the States/UTs under SBM(G) for 2023-24 for approval. The AIPs of all the States/UTs were discussed and approved in the meeting held on 28.03.2023. Hence, the Department has been in the position for releasing funds to the States/UTs from the month of April, 2023 onwards. However, release of funds also requires fulfillment of various others conditions as per the instruction issued by Ministry of Finance such as meeting requisite percentage of expenditure, release of funds from State Treasury to State Nodal Agency, compliances of various data entry in PFMS, etc. and conditions given in the scheme guidelines. For this, DDWS is regularly pursuing with the States to expedite expenditure and fulfill the requisite conditions for release so that the funds can be released to the States at the earliest.

**(OM No.H.11020/1/2023-Parliament-DDWS Dated: 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2023)**

**Comment of the Committee**  
**(Please see Para No 14 of Chapter I of the Report)**

#### ***Recommendation No. 12 (Para No. 2.12)***

#### **Financial performance under SBM(G) II**

The Committee find that the trend of under utilisation during the last three years, highlighted by them in their earlier reports on Demands for Grants, has continued to be noticed in 2022-23 as well. They note that during the last three years, the Department has not been able to utilise the revised budget allocation despite reduction by approximately 60% in the years 2020-21 and 2021-22 and 69% in 2022-23 at RE stage, while the utilisations were stated to be 82.47% in 2020-21, 51.86% in 2021-22 and 57.53% in 2022-23 (till 9 February, 2023). However, around 15 to 17% of this utilisation has been towards interest payment for Extra Budgetary Resources (EBR) which was to the tune of Rs. 1031.03 (17.18%) in 2020-21, Rs. 1032.89 (17.21%) in 2020-21 and Rs. 771.99 (15.44%) in 2022-23 till 9 February, 2023. This shows the effective utilisation of funds has been even lesser. Keeping in view the physical and financial performance of phase II of the Scheme, the Committee recommend the Department to intensify their efforts on issues/challenges withholding the execution of

works/activities and pursue more vigorously with the concerned agencies and State Governments for accomplishment of goals within the targeted period.

### **REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT**

In order to ensure that funds allocated under the programme are utilized by the States/UTs efficiently and effectively, detailed discussions were held in March, 2023 with all the States/UTs individually on their Annual Implementation Plans (AIPs) for the year 2023-24. States were advised to ensure that the targets set by them are in line with achieving the goal of the programme by the set timelines. Suggestions were also given to the States/UTs for expeditious implementation of the AIP. Regular review meetings are also being held regularly with Chief Secretaries and Principal Secretaries of the nodal departments in the States/UTs for expeditious implementation of the programme and effective utilization of funds.

**(OM No.H.11020/1/2023-Parliament-DDWS Dated: 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2023)**

**Comment of the Committee  
(Please see Para No 17 of Chapter I of the Report)**

#### ***Recommendation No. 14 (Para No. 2.14)***

#### **Review of unit assistance for construction of Individual Household Latrines (IHHLs)**

The Committee note that for achievement of ODF sustainability, provision for construction of IHHLs for left out and new households and construction of CSCs for households who do not have adequate space for construction of IHHLs, for floating and migrant population and in places of large congregation, has been made in SBM-G Phase-II. They further note that new eligible households (all BPL households and identified APL households viz SC/ST households, households with physically disabled person, landless labourers with homestead, small and marginal farmers and women headed households) are provided incentives up to Rs.12000 for construction of one unit of Individual Household Latrine (IHHL). However, in their view, the amount of incentive needs to be increased keeping in view the rising input costs and poor economic condition of the targeted beneficiaries as stated above, especially after the pandemic when many of them had to suffer economic hardship. In this connection, while welcoming the step taken by the Department to ascertain the cost estimation of twin pit toilets at present from States across different regions in the country, the Committee hope that the Department will review the cost as assured and revise it appropriately to encourage all the above categories of Households to build and use their own toilets and bring about behavioural change.

### **REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT**

The department is in process for revision of incentive amount for IHHL. States were also consulted to assess the actual cost of construction of IHHL in their States. Based on the assessment, a proposal for revision of of incentive amount for IHHL will be moved for approval of the Cabinet.

**(OM No.H.11020/1/2023-Parliament-DDWS Dated: 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2023)**

### **Recommendation No. 15 (Para No. 2.15)**

#### **Retrofitting of toilets from single pit to Twin Pit**

The Committee note that SBM(G) Phase-I emphasised on safe technology choice for sanitation. They also note that use of twin-pit technology has been encouraged wherever suitable along with the option given to States to choose from other safe technologies as well. The Department has informed that there are 73.1 % Twin Pits, 13.5% Septic Tanks and 12.4% Single Pits. Out of 1,62,237 toilets that have been retrofitted, 97,951 are Single Pits retrofitted to Twin Pits and 64,286 Septic Tanks have been fitted with Soak Pits. However, the Committee find that there are still many States/UTs where majority of the toilets are Single Pits and need to be retrofitted, such as Arunachal Pradesh (6.53%), Goa (40.25%), Haryana (28.4%), Himachal Pradesh (0.68%), Karnataka (5.30%), Ladakh (2.36%), Meghalaya (34.86%), Mizoram (13.50%), Nagaland (29.49%), Puducherry (32.19%), Punjab (16.43%), Rajasthan (36.98%), Sikkim (3.61%) and Uttarakhand (26.87%). They further note that funds for this purpose can be utilised from the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission tied grants and from MGNREGS funds which was allowed recently vide order dated 18 January, 2023. The Committee hope that with the funding assistance made available through Tied grants and MGNREGS funds, retrofitting of the remaining toilets and Septic Tanks will be completed within the stipulated time frame. They would like to be apprised of the State/UT wise details of retrofitting work completed within the three months of the presentation of this Report.

#### **REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT**

The 'Retrofit to Twin Pit' Campaign which was launched in a Mission mode by the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation under Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) on 2nd October, 2022 for onsite and safe treatment of faecal sludge, has now been extended till 30th June, 2023 to enable the States/UTs to maximize their outcomes in this regard.

The Campaign has a specific focus on promotion of onsite and safe disposal of faecal sludge in rural areas. The States/UTs have been advised to prioritize the Campaign activities in their respective States/UTs viz., retrofitting of single pit toilets into twin pit toilets and constructing a soak pit with the septic tank type toilets for safe management of the effluent.

The States/UTs have achieved considerable retrofitting conversion [6,52,765 – Total of Column (G) & (I) of Annexure-V] and are likely to achieve the targets under the Campaign in the extended period. It is also encouraging to observe that States have taken initiatives to expedite the progress in the campaign mode and have included retrofitting targets in their respective Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for 2023-24. The State/UT wise retrofitting targets achieved as on 31.5.2023 are at Annexure-V.

**(OM No.H.11020/1/2023-Parliament-DDWS Dated: 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2023)**

### **Recommendation No. 16 (Para No. 2.16)**

Status of Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM) facilities 2.16 The Committee note that as on 20th January, 2023, there were 1,08,764 ODF Plus – 'Aspiring' villages having arrangements for either Solid Waste Management or Liquid Waste Management and 67,071 ODF Plus villages (including 'Rising' and 'Model') which have both solid and liquid waste management facility. However, they observe that in terms of targeted number of villages to be covered with SLWM infrastructure, only 37.62% of the villages could be equipped with solid waste management facilities, while 51.12 %

of the villages could be covered under liquid waste management facilities. They further note that in some States such as Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan and West Bengal, both Solid and Liquid management works have been progressing at a snail's pace since the year 2020-21. The Department have informed the Committee that the projected targets could not be accomplished due to focus on planning during the initial years and lack of technical knowhow at the initial stage. Prevalence of Covid-19 pandemic during 2020 and 2021 also affected the progress of implementation. However, as assured, the Committee expect that regular engagement, follow up and coordination with the States will be undertaken extensively to create the SLWM facilities in all the villages so that the targets of ODF Plus could be achieved by the States/UTs by 2024-25.

### **REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT**

DDWS is continuously pursuing with the States and supporting them so that implementation of the programme can be speeded up at ground level. Regular review meetings, technical workshops with the States/UTs are conducted. For each State/UT, an officer (at Deputy Secretary and Director levels) have been made area officer who regularly gets in touch with the States to review the programme and to know the issues being faced by the State/UT in implementation of the programme. Secretary (DDWS), Joint Secretary & Mission Director (SBM-G) and area officers in the Department regularly undertaking visits to the States to see the progress at ground level. The engagement with the States/UTs is being continuous and vigorous review of implementation of the programme is being done through review meetings, reports, MIS etc.

As reported by the States, till 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2023, 1,77,771 **(29.97%)** villages have been covered with Solid Waste Management and 2,64,677 **(44.62%)** villages have been covered with Liquid Waste Management. Further 3,26,905 **(55.11%)** villages have declared themselves ODF Plus (Aspiring– 2,29,540; Rising–36,140; Model–61,225).

**(OM No.H.11020/1/2023-Parliament-DDWS Dated: 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2023)**

**CHAPTER – III**  
**RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO**  
**PURSUE IN VIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT'S REPLIES**

**NIL**

**CHAPTER – IV**  
**RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF THE**  
**GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE**

**Recommendation No. 5 (Para No. 2.5)**

**Special assistance to address resource crunch in States**

The Committee note that one of the principal reasons for under utilisation of funds is delay in release of matching State share. They find that five States viz. Haryana, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Odisha utilised less than 25% of Central funds while three States of West Bengal, Karnataka and Manipur utilised exactly 25% of the Central allocation for implementation of JJM. Lesser utilisation of Central funds allocated under JJM has been attributed to States' inability in arranging funds during pandemic and associated lockdowns. The Committee believe that besides financial crunch, additional burden due to cost overrun has also handicapped States in releasing matching share timely for speedy implementation of projects/works under JJM, a pre requisite to achieve 100 percent coverage of Functional Household Tap Connection in rural areas. They note that in order to provide financial support to State Governments, Special Assistance from the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) was extended to States for Capital Expenditure with an allocation of Rs. 1 lakh crore as 50-year interest free loan, out of which Rs. 4,000 crore has been earmarked for works under JJM in 2022-23. They further note that the Department of Expenditure is the nodal agency in the matter and the States submit requisite proposals directly to them and as such no data for fund utilization under the scheme is maintained in the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation. While praising the much needed step to provide financial succour to States, the Committee observe that so far noticeable impact on States' fund release has not been seen. The Committee therefore, recommend the Department to furnish the details of States availing the special assistance along with the size of the loan available under this scheme, the amount demanded, received and utilised for JJM by each of them since its launch, reasons for not availing, etc. They also recommend that Department should urge the States to avail this assistance to enable them to implement the JJM works expeditiously.

**REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT**

Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance is the nodal Department for releasing of special assistance to the States. As informed by D/o Expenditure, in 2022-23, an amount of Rs. 1289.80 Crore has been drawn by 13 States as assistance for Capital Investment under JJM. The details are at Annex-I.

In 2023-24, Ministry of Finance earmarked 20% of funds allocated under Part-I of the Scheme (Rs. 1 lakh Crore) for Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) and Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. States are being encouraged to avail this special assistance for creating rural water supply infrastructure.

**(OM No.H.11020/1/2023-Parliament-DDWS Dated: 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2023)**

**Comment of the Committee**  
**(Please see Para No 8 of Chapter I of the Report)**

### **Recommendation No. 7 (Para No. 2.7)**

#### **Supply of safe drinking water in quality affected habitations**

The Committee note that out of 57,539 water quality affected habitations spread over 11 States, as reported on 15 August, 2019, quality of water supplied in 35,659 habitations have improved as on 15 February, 2023. However, 21,880 habitations, out of which 652 habitations are affected with arsenic, 461 with Fluoride, 10,325 with Iron, 9,909 with Salinity, 509 with Nitrate and 89 with Heavy Metals, are yet to be provided with safe drinking water. While majority of habitations in arsenic and fluoride affected water supply areas have been covered with temporary arrangement of safe drinking water supply, no such measure has been taken in case of other contaminants. Since other contaminants can also cause health hazard, the Committee feel that these areas too need to be covered by temporary measures to provide immediate relief to the remaining population living in 50% of quality affected habitations. They, therefore recommend the Department to impress upon the States the need to take measures which can provide immediate solution such as mobile water vans/tankers carrying safe and clean drinking water or installation of small water purification dispensers till all such habitants are provided piped drinking water from a good quality source besides taking measures for permanent solution of contamination problem under JJM. The Committee would also like to be apprised of the details of progress in coverage of quality affected habitations with permanent good quality functional tap water supply as on date.

#### **REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT**

Providing potable drinking water to quality-affected habitations is one of the priorities under Jal Jeevan mission. States/ UTs have been advised to plan and implement piped water supply schemes of bulk water transfer based on safe water sources such as surface water sources or alternative safe ground water sources for the villages with water quality issues. As suggested, all States/ UTs have been advised from time to time to ensure expeditious implementation of piped water supply projects to provide potable tap water to every household in all quality-affected habitations. In Annual Action Plan for 2023-24 held in the month of February & March, 2023, all States/ UTs have planned to cover all the remaining water quality habitations. A weekly progress report for monitoring coverage of water quality affected habitations is reviewed and shared with States for expeditious coverage of the remaining habitations.

As planning, implementation and commissioning of piped water supply scheme based on a safe water source may take time, purely as an interim measure, States/ UTs have been advised to install community water purification plants (CWPPs) especially in Arsenic and Fluoride 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.

As reported by the States/ UTs, the water quality affected habitations have reduced from 21,880 in February, 2023 to 19,085 rural habitations as on 15.06.2023. Further, provision of CWPP has been made in all reported 582 Arsenic-affected and 420 Fluoride-affected habitations. The details of Water quality – affected habitations and their coverage with CWPP as on date is as under and the State/ UT wise details is at Annex-II:

S. No.	Major Contaminants	No of quality-affected rural habitations	Covered with short term measures/ CWPP
1.	Fluoride	420	420

2.	Arsenic	582	582
3.	Iron	8,593	4
4.	Salinity	8,929	9
5.	Nitrate	475	9
6.	Heavy Metal	86	58
Total		19,085	1,123

Other Measures taken by the Department under JJM to provide safe drinking water in quality affected rural habitations in the country:

- a) In March 2017, to provide potable drinking water to identified 27,544 Arsenic/ Fluoride-affected habitations in the country, National Water Quality Sub-Mission (NWQSM) was launched as part of National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) which was subsequently subsumed under JJM. The NWQSM has been closed on 31st March, 2022. As reported by States, safe drinking water has become available in all these identified 27,544 Arsenic/ Fluoride-affected habitations.
- b) While allocating the funds to States/ UTs in a particular financial year, 10% weightage is given to the population residing in habitations affected by chemical contaminants as on 31st March of the preceding financial year. Besides, the coverage fund provided to the States/ UTs can be utilized for taking up schemes in water quality-affected areas on priority.
- c) Under Jal Jeevan Mission, as per existing guidelines, Bureau of Indian Standards' BIS:10500 standards is to be adopted for ensuring safe drinking water supply. States/UTs have been advised to carry out testing of water quality on a periodic basis, i.e. once in a year for chemical and physical parameters, and twice in a year for bacteriological parameters and take remedial action wherever necessary, to ensure that the water supplied to households is of prescribed quality.
- d) In consultation with various stakeholders, 'Handbook on Drinking Water Treatment Technologies' has been released for guidance of officials of States/ UTs presenting therein consolidated details about various technologies available in market for treating different type of contaminants to provide safe drinking water to rural households. This is only suggestive in nature and may serve as a field reference manual. The States may take up appropriate water treatment technology depending upon techno-economic feasibility.

**(OM No.H.11020/1/2023-Parliament-DDWS Dated: 11<sup>th</sup>July, 2023)**

**Comment of the Committee  
(Please see Para No 11 of Chapter I of the Report)**



### **Recommendation No. 13 (Para No. 2.13)**

#### **Release of State share of funds for various activities under SBM (G) II**

The Committee notice that as per the guidelines of the Ministry of Finance regarding procedure for release of funds under Centrally Sponsored Schemes, Centre share funds are to be released from Treasury to Single Nodal Account (SNA) of the schemes within 21 days of its receipt in the Treasury and corresponding State share funds are to be released within 40 days of receipt of Centre share. However, as per the facts submitted by the Department, 10 States such as Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Kerala, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal have reported delays in releasing funds, varying for a period of 67 to 165 days in the year 2022-23, affecting execution of projects. Since, timely release of funds from both Central and State Governments can only ensure timely utilisation, the Committee would recommend the Department to apprise them about the reason and the steps taken to address them including addressing the issue of resource crunch of the States.

### **REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT**

The delay for releasing the funds from Treasury to SNA account was taken up with the concerned States. So far 5 states have communicated the reason for delay in transfer of funds from Treasury to SNA. Details are attached at Annexure-IV

Further, this department has time and again issued advisory for releasing of funds from Treasury to SNA. Now, Ministry of Finance has decided to charge interest with effect from 01/04/2023 on the number of days of delay beyond 30 days in transfer of central share to the SNA account @ 7% p.a. No further funds will be released from Centre to States until the earlier released funds are transferred from State Treasury to SNA. The instructions of MoF has been communicated to Chief Secretaries/ State Finance Secretaries for strict compliance

**(OM No.H.11020/1/2023-Parliament-DDWS Dated: 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2023)**

**Comment of the Committee  
(Please see Para No 20 of Chapter I of the Report)**

### **Recommendation No. 17 (Para No. 2.17)**

#### **Plastic waste management in villages**

The Committee note that one of the objectives of phase II of SBM(G) is to make villages 'visually clean' by ensuring minimal littering, minimal stagnation of water and no accumulation of plastic waste in the form of a dump. The Committee are of the view that plastic waste disposal is one of the important dimensions in bringing about cleanliness. They note that to fulfill this objective, GPs have been assigned the task of arrangement for door-to-door collection of plastic waste along with other waste, segregation & storage of plastic waste at the common village shed constructed/available in the village, selling recyclable plastic waste to vendors and sending remaining plastic waste to the block level Plastic Waste Management Units (PWMUs). They further note that funding support of Rs.

16 lakhs per block is provided for setting up PWMUs. However, so far 7% of all the blocks in the country have been equipped with PWMUs. The Committee are happy to note that amongst all the States/UTs, Odisha, Tamil Nadu and Ladakh have made good progress in creating plastic waste management facility with 72%, 42% and 48% of the blocks covered respectively in these States. In view of the growing menace of plastic wastes which create environmental hazards and also create a filthy look in the form of heaps, the Committee recommend for expediting establishment of PWMUs in all the blocks of the country to realize the objective of visually clean villages. Also, facility for door to door collection of waste and its segregation, being the first step, the Committee recommend for creating monitoring mechanism including physical verification of such facility at block/ district level officers in those villages which have been certified as ODF plus villages. They would like to be apprised of the details of existing ODF plus villages where door to door facility of waste creation and segregation has been created, frequency of such collection and verification mechanism for the same.

### **REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT**

As per the Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) Phase-II operational guideline, there must be one Plastic Waste Management Unit in each block, if clustering is not possible. This was again reiterated during the Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) meeting for all States and UTs to have Plastic Waste Management Units at the Blocks levels. In AIP of FY 2023-24, States and UTs have planned to setup PWMUs/linkages of blocks with urban facilities in over 3700 Blocks. As reported by States on IMIS, over 950 blocks in the country have been equipped with Plastic Waste Management Unit (PWMU) or linked with Urban Plastic Waste Management Facilities. State/UT-wise, Total blocks and no. of blocks with Plastic Waste Management Unit (PWMU) are at Annexure-V.

States/UTs have been advised via letter no. S-11011/20/2022-SBM-DDWS(Part-4) dated 21<sup>st</sup> June 2022 to carry out mandatory third-party verification for ODF Plus (Model category) villages. The States can also undertake supervisory verifications for the ODF Plus villages across all categories (Aspiring/Rising/Model) by the officer responsible in the chain of command at Block/District/State level.

As reported by States/UTs on IMIS of SBM(G), over 1,32,027 ODF Plus villages are having Vehicle for Collection of Waste in the country, where solid waste is being collected from all households/common points/community bins at regular intervals. States/UTs have been advised to carry out mandatory third-party verification for ODF Plus (Model category) villages.

**(OM No.H.11020/1/2023-Parliament-DDWS Dated: 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2023)**

**Comment of the Committee  
(Please see Para No 23 of Chapter I of the Report)**

**CHAPTER – V**  
**RECOMMENDATION/OBSERVATION IN RESPECT OF WHICH FINAL REPLY OF THE**  
**GOVERNMENT IS STILL AWAITED**

**NIL**

**New Delhi**  
**2 February, 2024**  
**13 Magha, 1945 (Saka)**

**Parbatbhai Savabhai Patel**  
**Chairperson**  
**Standing Committee on Water Resources**

MINUTES OF THE FOURTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES  
(2023-24) HELD ON FRIDAY, 02 FEBRUARY 2024

The Committee sat from 1500 hours to 1530 hours in Committee Room '1',-'A' Block, EPHA, New Delhi.

**PRESENT**

**Shri Parbatbhai Savabhai Patel - Chairperson**

**MEMBERS**

**LOK SABHA**

2. Shri Nihal Chand Chauhan
3. Smt. Agatha K. Sangma
4. Shri Shivkumar Chanabasappa Udasi
5. Shri D. K. Suresh
6. Dr. Heena Vijaykumar Gavit
7. Shri Pratap Chandra Sarangi
8. Shri Hasmukhbhai Somabhai Patel
9. Dr. K. Jayakumar
10. Shri Bhagirath Choudhary
11. Shri Vijay Baghel
12. Shri Guman Singh Damor
13. Shri P. Ravindhranath
14. Shri Dhanush M. Kumar
15. Shri Sunil Kumar
16. Shri Kuruva Gorantla Madhav

**RAJYA SABHA**

17. Shri H. D. Devegowda
18. Shri Pramod Tiwari
19. Shri Arun Singh
20. Shri Aneel Prasad Hegde

**SECRETARIAT**

1. Smt. Suman Arora - Additional Secretary
2. Shri Ajay Kumar Sood - Director

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee. Thereafter, the Committee took up for consideration (i) Draft Report on "Review of Upper Yamuna River Cleaning Project upto Delhi and River bed management in Delhi"; and (ii) Draft Report on "Action Taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Twenty First Report of the Committee on the Demands for Grants (2023-24)". After due deliberation, the Committee adopted the aforesaid draft Reports, without any modification.

3. The Committee then authorized the Chairperson to present the Reports on their behalf to both the Houses of Parliament in the current Session.

The Committee then adjourned.

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## ANNEXURE-II

[Vide Para 4 of the Introduction]

### ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS/ OBSERVATIONS CONTAINED IN THE TWENTY FIRST REPORT (SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA) OF THE COMMITTEE

(i)	Total number of Recommendations/Observations	17	
(ii)	Recommendation/Observations which have been accepted by the Government Sl. Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15 and 16	Total - 13 Percentage -76.47%	
(iii)	Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies	Total - NIL Percentage- 0%	
(iv)	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee	Total - 04 Percentage - 23.53 %	
(v)	Recommendation/Observation in respect of which final reply of the Government is still awaited	Total - NIL Percentage - 0%	

**Annexure-III**

**State-wise details of eligible amount as State's share of JJM and the capital expenditure approved towards State's share of JJM under Part-I of the Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment for 2022-23.**

**(Rs. in crore)**

S. No.	States	Approved Amount as State's Share of JJM	Released Amount as State's Share of JJM
1	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.000
2	Arunachal Pradesh	100.00	100.000
3	Assam	0.00	0.000
4	Bihar	0.00	0.000
5	Chhattisgarh	118.21	118.210
6	Goa	26.04	26.040
7	Gujarat	0.00	0.000
8	Haryana	0.00	0.000
9	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.000
10	Jharkhand	350.84	350.840
11	Karnataka	0.00	0.000
12	Kerala	72.58	72.580
13	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.000
14	Maharashtra	177.46	177.460
15	Manipur	32.13	16.065
16	Meghalaya	83.00	83.000
17	Mizoram	37.10	18.550
18	Nagaland	0.00	0.000
19	Odisha	0.00	0.000
20	Punjab	0.00	0.000
21	Rajasthan	240.00	240.000
22	Sikkim	10.00	10.000
23	Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.000
24	Telangana	0.00	0.000
25	Tripura	74.12	37.060
26	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0.000
27	Uttarakhand	40.00	40.000
28	West Bengal	0.00	0.000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,361.48</b>	<b>1289.805</b>

**DDWS's OM No.H.11020/1/2023-Parliament-DDWS Dated: 11<sup>th</sup>July, 2023**

**Annexure-IV**

**State/ UT-wise number of water quality–affected rural habitations (as on 15.06.2023)**

S. No.	State	Number of water quality–affected habitations									Total water quality-affected habitations
		Fluoride		Arsenic		Iron	Salinity	Nitrate	Heavy Metal		
		Total	Covered with short term measures/ CWP P	Total	Covered with short term measures/ CWP P				Total	Covered with short term measures/ CWP P	
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	46	0	0	0	0	46
2.	Assam	0	0	0	0	6,749	0	0	0	0	6,749
3.	Bihar	0	0	0	0	66	0	0	0	0	66
4.	Jharkhand	2	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	5
5.	Kerala	4	4	0	0	58	17	8	0	0	87
6.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	10
7.	Maharashtra	0	0	0	0	6	4	1	0	0	11
8.	Odisha	28	28	0	0	1,118	14	6	0	0	1,166
9.	Punjab	176	176	428	428	3	0	17	86	58	710
10.	Rajasthan	151	151	0	0	4	8,840	436	0	0	9,431
11.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	326	0	0	0	0	326
12.	Uttar Pradesh	20	20	78	78	209	44	6	0	0	357
13.	Uttarakhand	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	3
14.	West Bengal	39	39	76	76	3	0	0	0	0	118
	<b>Total</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>582</b>	<b>582</b>	<b>8,593</b>	<b>8,929</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>19,085</b>

Sources: JJM IMIS

**DDWS's OM No.H.11020/1/2023-Parliament-DDWS Dated: 11<sup>th</sup>July, 2023**

**State-wise, reasons for delay in transfer of funds from Treasury to SNA**

S. No.	States	No. of Days of pendency	Reason for delay
1	Arunachal Pradesh	165	Reply is still awaited
2	Bihar	77	Reply is still awaited
3	Kerala	77	Delay due to re-appropriation of the state budget allocation for the financial year 2022-23
4	Manipur	224	State Finance department verify assets constructed through an App called Darpan, whole verification process through this app takes around 5 months However, in the Financial Year, 2022-23, the process got delayed, due to the law & order situation in the State.
5	Mizoram	105	Reply is still awaited
6	Nagaland	70	The State Planning and Coordination Department could allocate the state matching share and clear the sanction on 28th Sep, 2022 due to state resource constraints
7	Rajasthan	85	Reply is still awaited
8	Sikkim	84	After proposal of cabinet in its meeting held in 28.11.2022, Sanction sent to treasury for release fund & same was credited on 06.12.2022
9	Uttar Pradesh	93	Reply is still awaited
10	West Bengal	67	The delay receiving fund in SNA was due to procedural delay in finance department.

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## Annexure-VI

State/Ut-wise, Total block and no. of blocks with Plastic Waste Management Unit  
(PWMU)

Sr.No.	State/UT Name	Total No. of Blocks	Total no of PWMU
1	A & N Islands	7	7
2	Andhra Pradesh	658	82
3	Arunachal Pradesh	114	0
4	Assam	244	18
5	Bihar	533	54
6	Chhattisgarh	146	1
7	D & N Haveli and Daman & Diu	3	0
8	Goa	12	4
9	Gujarat	248	9
10	Haryana	143	13
11	Himachal Pradesh	77	25
12	Jammu & Kashmir	285	3
13	Jharkhand	263	21
14	Karnataka	232	8
15	Kerala	152	38
16	Ladakh	31	15
17	Lakshadweep	9	0
18	Madhya Pradesh	313	5
19	Maharashtra	351	1
20	Manipur	44	20
21	Meghalaya	42	2
22	Mizoram	26	7
23	Nagaland	74	8
24	Odisha	314	313
25	Puducherry	3	0
26	Punjab	153	2
27	Rajasthan	352	2
28	Sikkim	32	2
29	Tamil Nadu	388	227
30	Telangana	540	15
31	Tripura	58	0
32	Uttar Pradesh	826	13
33	Uttarakhand	95	15
34	West Bengal	342	20
<b>Total:-</b>		<b>7110</b>	<b>950</b>

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