

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2171
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.03.2021

LACK OF ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER

2171: SHRI SANJAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether over 120 million households still lack access to clean water near their homes in the country, which is the highest in the world, according to UN-water;
- (b) Whether according to United Nations International Children's Education Fund (UNICEF), 91 million urban Indians lack basic hand washing facilities at home which creates a higher risk of spread of illnesses and diseases like diarrhoea, typhoid, hepatitis, including coronavirus; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to accelerate the process of providing clean water connection to another 138 million households, or 73 percent remaining, by 2024, especially in rural households?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI
(SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA)

- (a) In an article published on 19.08.2020 in Hindustan Times, quoting UN Water, it was reported that over 120 million households still lack access to clean water near their homes in the country, which is the highest in the world. However, as reported by States/ UTs, as on 11.03.2021, with sources at a reasonable distance, 79.27% rural habitations having 78.22% population have provision of minimum 40 litre per capita per day (lpcd) of potable drinking water and 17.86% rural habitations having 19.25% population have service level of less than 40 lpcd potable water, whereas 2.86% rural habitations having 2.52% population with ground water sources having quality issues.
- (b) As reported in the media, in a statement issued on the occasion of the Global Handwash Day on 15.10.2020, the UNICEF India mentioned that 20% population of urban India or 91 million people lack basic hand washing facilities at home.
- (c) To enable every rural household in the country to have potable tap water supply through functional tap water connection, by 2024, Government of India is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in partnership with States. The estimated outlay of the mission is Rs. 3.60 lakh Crore. At the time of launch of mission on 15th August, 2019, only 3.23 Crore households had tap water connections. Since then, 3.78 Crore households have been given tap water connection. Thus, out of 19.19 Crore rural households, tap water connections have been provided to more than 7.01 Crore rural households and remaining 12.18 Crore rural households are planned to be provided tap water connections by 2024.
