

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

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 717**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2021

**ACUTE CRISIS OF DRINKING WATER**

717 Lt.Gen. (Dr.) D. P. VATS (RETD.):  
SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR:  
SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:  
SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that several parts of the country are facing acute crisis of drinking water and the steps taken by Government to address the problem of water;
- (b) the scheme of Government to develop alternative sources of water other than ground water; and
- (c) the measures taken during the last two years for providing clean drinking water in rural areas?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI  
(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)

(a) As reported by States/ UTs, as on 19.07.2021, out of 17.01 lakh rural habitations in the country, 13.46 lakh [79.12%] have provision of potable drinking water with more than 40 litre per capita per day (lpcd) and 3.07 lakh [18.07%] rural habitations with less than 40 lpcd with sources at a reasonable distance. Further, 0.48 lakh [2.81%] rural habitations are reported to have water quality issues in drinking water sources.

(b) & (c) Since August 2019, Government of India in partnership with States, is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) – Har Ghar Jal to make provision of potable tap water to every rural household, by 2024.

Under JJM, provisions have been made for drinking water source development/ strengthening/ augmentation; and infrastructure for bulk transfer of water, treatment and distribution systems in water deficit drought-prone and desert areas without dependable ground water sources, apart from creation of in-village water supply infrastructure. Government has also launched Jal Shakti Abhiyan to promote rainwater harvesting and water conservation.

In addition, provisions for taking up augmentation and strengthening of local drinking water sources in convergence with other schemes at village level viz. MGNREGS, 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission tied grants to Rural Local Bodies (RLBs), Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP), State schemes, District Mineral Development Fund, CSR funds, community contribution, etc. have also been envisaged under the JJM.

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