

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 712
ANSWERED ON 29/07/2024

IMPLEMENTATION OF JAL JEEVAN MISSION IN WEST BENGAL

712. SHRI SAMIK BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for West Bengal being ranked last in the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission, and the specific challenges faced by the State in this regard;
- (b) whether there is a realistic plan and timeline in place to ensure that West Bengal meets the target of providing water to all households by 31st December, 2024;
- (c) Government's plans to overcome any infrastructural or administrative bottlenecks to improve the implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission in West Bengal; and
- (d) the steps taken to ensure transparency and accountability in execution of Jal Jeevan Mission in West Bengal and manner in which the progress is being monitored?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI V. SOMANNA)

(a) to (d) Since August, 2019, Government of India is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in partnership with States to make provision of tap water supply to every rural household of the country, including in West Bengal. 'Water' is a state subject and therefore, the primary responsibility for planning and implementing piped water supply schemes to provide tap water to rural households, lies with the respective State/UT. Government of India supplements the efforts of States/ UTs by providing technical and financial assistance under JJM.

As reported by state of West Bengal on JJM-IMIS, at the time of launch of Jal Jeevan Mission in the State on 15th August, 2019, approximately 2.14 lakh rural households had tap water connections. Since then, 87.18 lakhs additional rural households have been provided with tap water connections. Thus, as on 26.07.2024, out of 175.26 lakhs rural households in West Bengal, the provision of tap water supply is available to more than 89.33 lakhs (50.97%) rural households in West Bengal and the remaining 85.93 lakhs are likely to be covered by the State by 15/08/2027 as per its plan.

To monitor the implementation of JJM, Government of India takes various measures such as holding joint review meetings with the State Government on regular basis and visits of multi-disciplinary teams from the department to highlight areas of concern such as need to strengthen

project planning, implementation, monitoring and to expedite the implementation to make provision of tap water supply to rural all households.

Under JJM, technology is utilized to ensure transparency and accountability. Physical and financial progress is reported on JJM–Integrated Management Information Systems (IMIS). Provisions have also been made for geo-tagging of assets created under the JJM, and third - party inspection to check the quality of work. In addition, the National WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) experts have been deployed to assist the States/ UTs to provide technical assistance at field level and carry ground truthing of JJM works in the villages.
