

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI
DEPARTMENT OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2316
ANSWERED ON – 16/12/2024

ISSUES RELATED TO WATER QUALITY

2316. DR. FAUZIA KHAN:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that West Bengal has reported the highest chemical contamination in water samples in 2023-24 at 30.45 per cent, followed by Rajasthan (20.07 per cent), Karnataka (11.33 per cent), and Maharashtra (9.73 per cent);
- (b) only around 78 per cent of contamination cases have seen remedial action related to quality issues of water;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI
(SHRI V SOMANNA)

(a) to (d) Government of India is committed to make provision for safe & potable tap water supply in adequate quantity, of prescribed quality and on a regular & long-term basis to all rural households in the country. Towards this end, the Government of India launched the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), to be implemented in partnership with States, in August 2019. Under the Jal Jeevan Mission, as per existing guidelines, Bureau of Indian Standards' BIS:10500 standards are adopted as benchmarks for quality of water being supplied through the piped water supply schemes. Drinking Water being a state subject, the responsibility of planning, approval, implementation, operation, and maintenance of drinking water supply schemes, including those under the Jal Jeevan Mission, lies with State/UT Governments. The Government of India supports the States by providing technical and financial assistance.

Significant progress has been made since the launch of Jal Jeevan Mission, towards enhancing access to tap water to rural households. At the time of announcement of Jal Jeevan Mission in August 2019, 3.23 Crore (16.72%) rural households were reported to have tap water connections in the country. So far, as reported by States/ UTs as on 12.12.2024, around 12.11 Crore additional rural households have been provided with tap water connections under JJM. Thus, as on 12.12.2024, out of 19.36 Crore rural households, approximately 15.35 Crore (79.31%) households are reported to have tap water supply in their homes.

Under JJM, while planning water supply schemes to provide tap water supply to households, priority is given to habitations affected by chemical contaminants. Under JJM, while allocating the funds to States/ UTs, 10% weightage is given to the population residing in habitations affected by chemical contaminants. States/ UTs have been advised to plan and implement piped water supply schemes based on alternative safe water sources for the villages with water quality issues.

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

To enable States/ UTs to test water samples for water quality, and for sample collection, reporting, monitoring and surveillance of drinking water sources, an online JJM – Water Quality Management Information System (WQMIS) portal has been developed. The State-wise details of water quality test reported through WQMIS are available in public domain on JJM Dashboard and can also be accessed at:

<https://ejalshakti.gov.in/WQMIS/Main/report>

The details of drinking water quality samples tested, samples found contaminated and remedial measures taken as reported by States/ UTs including West Bengal, Rajasthan, Karnataka and Maharashtra on JJM-WQMIS during 2023-24 is **annexed**.

States/UTs have been advised to carry out testing of water quality on a regular basis and take remedial action wherever necessary, to ensure that the water supplied to households is of prescribed quality. Regular review meetings are taken to sensitise the States about the remedial action.

Annex referred in the reply to Rajya Sabha unstarred Question No. 2316 for reply on 16/12/2024

Details of drinking water samples tested and remedial action taken for contaminated samples during 2023-34

S. No.	States/ UTs	Total no. of Sample tested	No. of Sample found contaminated	Total no. of Samples for which remedial action taken (both interim & water supply restored)	% of cases where remedial action taken
1.	A & N Islands	984	216	158	73%
2.	Andhra Pr.	6,97,148	11,920	9,750	82%
3.	Arunachal Pr.	38,826	15	9	60%
4.	Assam	2,94,974	7,275	6,299	87%
5.	Bihar	1,56,862	7,520	6,266	83%
6.	Chhattisgarh	1,22,469	1,461	1,243	85%
7.	D&NH and D&D	-	-	-	-
8.	Goa	10,016	30	30	100%
9.	Gujarat	1,52,507	14,922	13,834	93%
10.	Haryana	69,702	6,782	6,000	88%
11.	Himachal Pr.	2,19,252	122	122	100%
12.	Jammu & Kashmir	2,51,677	386	384	99%
13.	Jharkhand	2,13,170	241	240	100%
14.	Karnataka	2,51,607	24,827	19,592	79%
15.	Kerala	6,27,740	3,48,307	1,89,611	54%
16.	Ladakh	7,694	200	135	68%
17.	Lakshadweep	6,847	238	192	81%
18.	Madhya Pr.	5,72,354	2,552	2,497	98%
19.	Maharashtra	6,38,232	46,408	35,469	76%
20.	Manipur	17,324	25	25	100%
21.	Meghalaya	51,087	125	125	100%
22.	Mizoram	29,221	2,253	2,122	94%
23.	Nagaland	7,847	172	172	100%
24.	Odisha	2,58,439	6,254	4,933	79%
25.	Puducherry	818	140	-	-
26.	Punjab	33,043	610	609	100%
27.	Rajasthan	1,96,210	34,208	31,645	93%
28.	Sikkim	15,527	611	477	78%
29.	Tamil Nadu	8,46,464	218	208	95%
30.	Telangana	2,88,749	2	2	100%
31.	Tripura	50,542	4,005	3,572	89%
32.	Uttar Pr.	6,21,142	7,416	6,133	83%
33.	Uttarakhand	1,19,873	105	102	97%
34.	West Bengal	5,73,007	1,85,053	1,52,007	82%
Total		74,41,354	7,14,619	4,93,963	69%

Source: JJM-WQMIS