Jal Jeevan
Samvad
February, 2021
Prime Minister on Jal Jeevan Mission

“...उसके द्वारा, जल जीवन निश्चय यानी 'हर घर बाज़ा' पहुंचाने के लिए भी प्रशासन कार्य कर रहा है। जब गुंदा पीने का पानी घर पर पहुँचे, तो इससे अनेक बीमारियां तैनात हो सकती हों।”

नरेंद्र मोदी
भारतीय प्रधानमंत्री

(14 फरवरी, 2021 को विश्व साफ पानी दिवस पर इस प्रधानमंत्री ने दी यह बात।)

राज्य सभा में माननीय प्रधानमंत्री द्वारा माननीय राष्ट्रपति के अभिमान
पर ध्यानदायक प्रस्ताव, 8 फरवरी, 2021

“...जैसे अभी प्रधानमंत्री का अद्वितीय युद्ध जल जीवन मिशन की यात्रा हो रही है— इसके कारण समस्त देश में तीन करोड़ परिवारों तक घर में पीने का पानी पहुँचा है। अन्य देशों में भी अनेक लोगों के लिए यह मिशन एक संकल्प है। यह अब बंद नहीं है जब अर्थव्यवस्था में सभी की भागीदारी हो।”

नरेंद्र मोदी
भारतीय प्रधानमंत्री

(20 फरवरी, 2021 को राष्ट्रपति के इसी आयोजन में प्रधान मंत्री ने लिखा यह।)

Jal Jeevan Mission has connected over 34 million households with tap connections in just about 18 months...

Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

(Extract of PM's speech at World Sustainable Development Summit on 16th February, 2021)
Union Minister on Jal Jeevan Mission

Jal Jeevan Samvad

Published Date: Sat, 11 Feb 2023 03:43 AM (IST)  
Author: Shripendra Singh

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...Read more
Note from the desk of Mission Director...

New Delhi
February, 2021

With Union Government’s focus on ensuring water, sanitation & hygiene (WASH) services, which has huge impact on public health, in the budget for 2021-22, Jal Jeevan Mission has been given top priority and allocation has been increased from Rs. 11,500 Crore in 2020-21 to Rs. 50,011 Crore in 2021-22. With matching increase in State share and earmarking of 60% of 15th Finance Commission grants to rural local bodies or PRIs for water supply & sanitation, the investment on making provision of drinking water in rural areas will be more than 1 Lakh Crore in 2021-22, which is going to further increase in next 3 years. So far, about 20 thousand Crore rupees are spent on annually on water supply projects. This kind of increase in investment signifies the criticality of the sector and quantum of works to be done in coming years. This also signifies the priority of the Government to ensure clean tap water to every home to alleviate the drudgery of women and girls by removing their burden of fetching water from a distance, thus improving quality of life and enhancing ease of living of people in villages.

As planned, under Jal Jeevan Mission, about 12.50 Crore households to be provided tap water connections by 2024, which means, every year more than 3 Crore households to be provided tap water connections. This offers a huge opportunity to all stakeholders associated with water supply starting from manufacturers, technology providers, entrepreneurs, executing agencies, skilled workers, NGOs, etc. To plan and prepare for water supply work on such a scale, on 16 -17 February, 2021, a webinar was held, wherein all stakeholders including policy makers were present and shared their views. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Union Jal Shakti Minister Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Minister of State Shri Ratan Lal Kataria and leaders from industry, academic institutions, civil society and WASH experts attended and shared their views about how to expedite the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission.

When work of such magnitude is taken up in villages to build, and operate and maintain drinking water supply systems, a very large number of skilled manpower – masons, plumbers, electrician, fitters, pump operators, etc. are required, so that systems of water supply and grey water treatment & reuse, are built and its functioning is ensured without any disruption. This offers opportunities to local people to enhance their skills and avail employment opportunities. It is estimated that a workforce of about 25 lakh skilled & semi-skilled persons will be required continuously to work for the next 3 years. Opportunity may also come to such skilled people with entrepreneurial skills to take up responsibility of operation and maintenance of water supply systems in villages.

Drinking water supply works will give a boost to infrastructure creation leading to productive assets in 6 lakh villages. There will be huge demand for various items viz. motors for pumping, taps/ faucets in homes, various kind of pipes like MS, DI, HDPE for distribution networks, treatment technology, flow meters, etc. for drinking water schemes, which will give a huge push to the manufacturing sector. Along with this, there will be requirement of construction materials viz. cement, sand, bricks, iron, etc., which will be procured locally and help in boosting the local rural economy. With water supply work in so many villages, there is a huge opportunity for inspection agencies to check the quality of works, CAD-CAM designers, technology providers, etc. to address challenges of water quality, grey water, etc.

National Jal Jeevan Mission is developing sensor based IoT solution to measure and monitor quantity, quality and regularity of water supply in villages and rural homes. Smart portable water testing devices at affordable prices is also being developed, so that water can be tested in villages and also at homes. This offers a whole new opportunity to young entrepreneurs, start-ups and IT ecosystem of the country to innovate and contribute to the economy.
Since announcement of Jal Jeevan Mission in August, 2019, over 3.66 Crore families living in rural areas have been provided with tap water connection in their homes. Now, 6.90 Crore (36%) rural families in the country have assured clean water supply in their homes, thus improving their quality of life and enhancing ‘ease of living’. Every rural family in about 80 thousand villages are getting safe water through tap connections. In the next year, it is planned to ensure that in more than 1 lakh villages and 110 districts, every family has tap water supply in its homes, and no one is left out.

JJM offers a great opportunity. However, it also poses the challenge, the task to work with speed and on such a scale with efficiency and diligently. To ensure long-term service delivery of clean tap water to every home, we must focus on building partnerships with various stakeholders and working together to ensure decentralized planning, time-bound implementation and convergence at the village level along with regular monitoring with use of modern technology.

This issue has many interesting case studies from the field. I’m sure that you have many such stories which needs to be shared with our other partners. On 22nd March, World Water Day will be celebrated and I urge you to plan meaningful activities like Gram Sabha in every village to give further push to the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission with speed and scale. I am sure with your help and meaningful contribution, we will be able to provide assured tap water supply to every home, thus improving their quality of life and bringing in ease of living.

[Bharat Lal]
Additional Secretary & Mission Director
Jal Jeevan Mission
'जल जीवन मिशन: पानी के जरिए एक सामाजिक क्रांति'

प्रमुखता राजस्थान के लाल जलाल शाह, जलजीवन मिशन के मुख्य राजस्थान, ने बताया कि जलजीवन मिशन का मुख्य लक्ष्य है कि पानी के साथ सहज जीवन शुरू हो। वे बताया कि जलजीवन मिशन का मुख्य लक्ष्य है कि पानी के साथ सहज जीवन शुरू हो। वे बताया कि जलजीवन मिशन का मुख्य लक्ष्य है कि पानी के साथ सहज जीवन शुरू हो।

सातवां अंक

Budget 2021: Capturing the Pulse of the Nation

वर्तमान समय में, बजट 2021 एक महत्वपूर्ण अभियान है जो देश का आर्थिक और सामाजिक विकास के लिए महत्वपूर्ण है। इस बजट में, सरकार ने कई नए नीतियाँ और प्रक्रियाएं लागू की हैं जो देश के विकास में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभा सकती हैं।

इस बजट की एक बड़ी विषयवस्तु यह है कि पौधार्थ में जलजीवन मिशन की उन्नति। इस मिशन का मुख्य लक्ष्य है कि सभी लोगों को एक सामाजिक संवर्धन के लिए जलजीवन मिशन की उन्नति। इस मिशन का मुख्य लक्ष्य है कि सभी लोगों को एक सामाजिक संवर्धन के लिए जलजीवन मिशन की उन्नति।

जलजीवन मिशन के लिए सामाजिक संवर्धन के लिए, पौधार्थ में जलजीवन मिशन की उन्नति। इस मिशन का मुख्य लक्ष्य है कि सभी लोगों को एक सामाजिक संवर्धन के लिए जलजीवन मिशन की उन्नति। इस मिशन का मुख्य लक्ष्य है कि सभी लोगों को एक सामाजिक संवर्धन के लिए जलजीवन मिशन की उन्नति।

सातवां अंक
Progressive Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) coverage (as on 27.02.2021)

Comparative FHTC coverage status (as on 27.02.2021)
India | Status of tap water supply in rural homes

Total number of households (HHS): 19,17,20,832
Households with tap water connections as on 15 Aug 2019: 3,23,62,838 (16.88%)
Households with tap water connections as on date: 6,89,22,716 (35.95%)

Households provided with tap water connection since launch of the Mission: 3,65,59,878 (19.07%)

Har Ghar Jal [100 % HHs with tap water connections]

100 % FHTC States/ UTs
- Goa, Telangana

100 % FHTC Districts: 52
100 % FHTC Blocks: 667
100 % FHTC Panchayats: 41,220
100 % FHTC Villages: 79,747

As on 15th August, 2019

As on 27th February, 2021

Source: JJM - IMIS
Fifty thousand and eleven crores! Let this number sink in. A five-fold increase in budget allocation over the revised estimates for the financial year 2020-21. This is without even taking into consideration, the additional resources that will directly be available with Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) as per the recommendations of the 15th Finance Commission for investment in water and sanitation in rural areas.

This is a reflection of the importance of ensuring safe, assured water through functional household tap connections to every household. Success in this endeavor will not just improve the quality of life, but will significantly reduce the drudgery of women and adolescent girls in particular, creating an opportunity for their ‘agency’ to find realisation. Success will also imply that, not only that India will achieve Goal 6.1 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for ‘safely managed drinking water services’ – available on premises, when needed and meeting the water quality standards – but more importantly this could shift the progress globally, against this indicator.

If COVID-19 has taught us anything, it is the importance of water for hand-hygiene. The Union Budget squarely locates this investment in Jal Jeevan Mission and Swachh Bharat Mission as part of the investment in public health. This is a clear recognition of the importance of water and sanitation in laying the bedrock for improved absorption of nutrients and in the prevention of diarrheal diseases, for example.

Historically, the absence of adequate public investment has hindered policy ambition. The allocation for Jal Jeevan Mission in the Union Budget clearly reveals that the paucity of funds will not be a deterrent. There is a need for State governments, civil societies and the private sectors to seize this opportunity.

Panchayati Raj Institutions and Village Water and Sanitation Committees (VWSCs) are central to realising this ambition. The mission recognises the centrality of these institutions in creating village action plans and their participation in ensuring sustainable operation and maintenance. Implementing Support Agencies (ISAs) have a mandate to support the Panchayati Raj Institutions in this endeavour. Ensuring sustainability of the source will require not just funds from the mission but a convergence with other schemes and allocations from the 15th Finance Commission and PRIs will need to be supported in the creation of Gram Panchayat Development Plans that address the requirements for source sustainability.

The mission will also necessitate a transformation in how line departments responsible for drinking water approach this challenge. They have a mandate to respond to the needs of communities – as articulated by their village action plans- through the provision of appropriate infrastructure. In doing so, they also need to recognise that the guidelines emphasise habitations as the basic unit wherever a reliable source of water exists. In other words ‘small is indeed beautiful’. More importantly, communities are required to contribute to the creation of fixed assets and for the subsequent management of the schemes. Plans that are appropriate and require lower investment will reduce the burden on communities for their initial contribution and the subsequent costs of operation and maintenance. Finally, the line-departments will have to plan at the outset to ‘let go’.

This is our moment. An opportunity to leave lasting change and to make a tap in the household with safe and assured water, the norm for everyone!
India’s move to provide safe drinking water in JE-AES endemic areas

In time and with water, everything changes - Leonardo da Vinci

- Sumit Priyadarshi, Ambarish Karunanithi

**Water, a life-giving liquid, can also be a life-taking lethal fluid.** Contaminated water becomes media for transmitting a wide range of diseases. Despite significant economic and epidemiological transitions being underway, infectious diseases remain a significant public health problem in India. One such disease is Japanese Encephalitis (JE), a common vector-borne disease that exists in rural and suburban areas where rice and pig farming coexist. Most JE infections are asymptomatic, but if clinical illness develops, it causes significant morbidity and mortality. The spread of this disease has adverse effect on water availability and sanitation status which facilitates the breeding ground for its vector the 'Culexvishnui' & 'tritaeniorhynchus' mosquitoes to pass the enteric-virus to the humans through amplifying hosts. Pigs & wild birds are reservoirs of infection and are called amplifier hosts in the transmission cycle, while man and horse are dead-end hosts. The virus does not cause any disease among its natural hosts, and transmission continues through mosquitoes. Vector mosquito can transmit the JE virus to a healthy person after biting an infected host with an incubation period ranging from 5 to 14 days. The disease affects the Central Nervous System and can cause severe complications, seizures and even death. The Case Fatality Rate (CFR) of this disease is very high, and those who survive may suffer from various degrees of neurological problems.

The disease was clinically diagnosed in India in 1955 in Tamil Nadu. Since then, it has spread to many parts of India. Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) is a general description of the clinical presentation of a disease characterised by high fever, altered consciousness, etc., mostly in children below 15 years of age. JE virus is the primary causative agents of AES. Further, it is also evident that many JE-AES cases in India are spreading through unsafe drinking water sources. About 2,204 deaths & 15,182 cases have been reported for Japanese Encephalitis and 11,060 deaths & 1.03 Lakh cases have been reported for Acute Encephalitis Syndrome in the during 2010-20, as per National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme of India. The disease has highest footprints in 61 high priority districts in Assam, Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

Considering the urgency and the severe nature of the problem, the Government of India in 2012 has set in motion a multi-pronged strategy encompassing preventive, case management and rehabilitation aspects developed through detailed inter-ministerial consultations. The National Programme for Prevention & Control of JE/ AES was launched in 2012. This comprehensive programme was implemented by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in collaboration with the then Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation (MoDWS) and other concerned ministries. The programme focuses on activities including drinking water and sanitation, public health interventions, expansion of JE vaccination, improved case management, medical and social rehabilitation, and improved nutrition. A total of 171 districts in 19 States was identified as JE endemic districts. However, 61 districts in 5 States of Assam, Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh & West Bengal was considered for Phase I of the programme.

National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) was launched in 2012 to ensure safe drinking water supply in rural India. NRDWP mandated specific activities, as recommended by MoFHW, that were needed to be undertaken in JE-AES affected areas to mitigate JE-AES spread. 5% of the annual NRDWP allocation was earmarked out of annual allocation to States having chemical contamination of drinking water sources and identified districts affected by JE-AES. After the restructuring of NRDWP in 2017, 2% of the annual allocation was separately earmarked for the 60 identified districts affected by JE-AES. In addition to this, funds under Water Quality Monitoring and Surveillance (WQMS) were made available to the State. 3% of NRDWP funds were allocated separately for WQMS. After the restructuring of NRDWP in 2017, 5% of the annual allocation was used for WQMS and support activities. WQMS funds can be used to set up and up-graduate water quality testing laboratories, supply field test kits and refills, and train grass root level workers to undertake water quality tests.
To replace the hand pumps and other means of water supply with household tap water connection, Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) was announced on 15 August, 2019 by Hon’ble Prime Minister. Under the Mission, 0.5% of annual allocation has been earmarked for continuing the activities envisaged under JE-AES components.

**Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), the mega-intervention in the rural water supply sector**

Under JJM, activities will be carried out in JE-AES affected 61 districts as one of the priority areas for providing safe drinking water as per existing policy by taking up piped water supply (surface/ground water) schemes to provide Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) at service level of 55 lpcd. In all completed/ongoing schemes, States will take measures to provide FHTCs at service level of 55 lpcd to every rural household by retrofitting and making it JJM compliant by 2021, thus JE-AES is a priority area now. The disease is not only restricted to 61 high priority districts but has footprints in 171 districts across 19 States, and thus through JJM, the interventions are not limited to the high priority districts but have an envelope of entire rural India which includes these 171 districts.

JJM also intends to involve womenfolk in decision making at a larger scale and in crucial activities, be it scheme design or its implementation or water quality testing. Under JJM, third party functionality assessment of piped water supply schemes is carried out to assess the quantity, quality of drinking water on regular basis.

Increasing the network of laboratories, involving private testing laboratory of repute and including educational institution in the testing/surveillance drive will provide better management of the source information on contamination and accordingly timely interventions that may be taken. Under JJM, there are provisions for making PRIs strengthened and skilled enough to take up sanitary surveys, take up IEC/ BCC measures to disseminate importance of sanitary conditions of existing water supply sources. There is a need for a focused approach for rapidly testing more sources and delivery points of water supply where there have been repeated incidences of JE/ AES occurrences. Thus, JJM strives to eliminate the disease burden of JE-AES from the country in collaborative manner with inclusive approach by ensuring tap water connection in every rural household.
The soul of India resides in villages. The best way to complement the ‘Can Do’ spirit of 130 Crore Indians was to see them fight the global pandemic last year. Government of India is working relentlessly to improve the quality of life, provide basic infrastructure and ensure well-being of people through various schemes.

Speed, scale, health is the single-minded focus of the present Government as they are running schemes towards ensuring Housing for all, electricity in every household, building individual and community toilets, chullah for smoke-free life to our care givers, ensuring social security, providing affordable healthcare, constructing roads and tap water connection in every household.

With the aim to provide household tap water connection to every rural home in the country, Jal Jeevan Mission was launched by the Hon’ble Prime Minister on 15th August, 2019 from the ramparts of the Red Fort. Har Ghar Jal programme is being implemented in partnership with States.

The foundation of good public health is access to clean, potable water. Various studies have shown that ailments related to water-borne diseases are cause of numerous child death because of frequent dysentery, typhoid and cholera. Piped water connection goes a long way in improving health of the poor who are most affected by water scarcity, depleting water sources, water contamination and usage of unsafe water for daily needs. With piped water availability in rural households, the health parameters of our children, adolescent girls and women are bound to improve. While children will lead a healthy life, the women will not suffer from abdominal and back pain, which is often because of heavy load of water they carry on their head.

Many studies have recorded evidence that lack of toilets and water facility in the household was a reason for early marriage and dropout from learning specially in case of adolescent girls. The families are concerned of the safety of young girls as they were forced to walk out of the secure surrounding of their home at odd hours either to...
A young kid helping her grand-mother to get tap water first time at home

defecate in open or collect water from a stand post which could be far away. With potable water in every home, young girls will continue their education and women shall get time to spend with their family, educate their children and engage in other economic activities. Another benefit drawn from the programme is reduction of drudgery faced by women as they walk long distances in scorching heat to fetch water for drinking, cooking and other household needs.

While Central and State government only act as patron and facilitator for the Har Ghar Jal programme, the real power is vested with the village communities, who are responsible for planning, implementation, management, operation and maintenance of the programme. Village Water & Sanitation Committee/ Pani Samiti are being constituted in every village to carry out mapping of existing water sources, undertake water conservation, initiate dialogue with the community to pay water User Charges, test water quality at regular intervals and ensure maintenance at all time of the infrastructure created under the programme. People’s representatives such as Member of Parliament, MLAs, Sarpanch/ Gram Panchayat members etc have a critical role to play in the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission to ensure that ‘no one is left behind’.

Through the programme we aim to build the capacity of women, in sectors which were otherwise considered male bastions like working as masons, mechanics, plumbers, pump operators, technicians, utility managers and water testing laboratory in-charge. The programme aims to address the problem of in-migration faced by rural youth who are forced to move out of their region in search of livelihood. With major infrastructure development taking place across the country a lot of employment opportunities shall be generated at all levels for skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled labour force. People will be engaged in various activities beyond construction as regular repair, maintenance and operation of the infrastructure will be needed under in-village and multi-village water supply schemes.

With increased budgetary allocation under the financial year 2021-22, the fund will not only work towards building a healthy life for the rural population but also provide livelihood opportunities, thereby enhance ‘ease of living’ of people living in rural areas for a better life.
Maharashtra ensuring source sustainability by aquifer mapping

- Sanjay V. Karad and Indrajeet M. Daberao, Senior Geologists at Groundwater Surveys and Development Agency (GSDA)

In drought-prone areas of Maharashtra, surface water supplies are inadequate or unavailable, which makes groundwater the only practical source of water supply. Groundwater feeds streams and rivers, especially during periods of drought or climate shocks, which calls for making aquifers sustainable to maintain food security. India's agricultural production journey — from external dependency to meet food grain requirements at in 1950s to self-sufficiency today — is intricately tied to the groundwater resources. The scarcity of water resources and ever-increasing demand for these vital resources require identification, quantification, and management of groundwater in a way that prevents overexploitation and consequent economic and environmental damage while satisfying demand for the water supply of competing sectors. Participatory groundwater management is envisaged to make a significant step in groundwater management at the grassroots level to enable the community and stakeholders to monitor and manage the groundwater as common-pool resources themselves. Groundwater monitoring is one of the key components to ensure sustainable piped water supply to rural households under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM).

Groundwater remains the lifeline of water security. To address this, Groundwater Surveys and Development Agency is giving urgent attention to resource mapping. Through groundwater resource mapping (often referred to as aquifer mapping), GSDA is holistically examining the water scarcity of two villages in Amravati - Pimpari Nipani and Takli Gilba (falling in the Wardha-Bembla river basin) – and identifying ways for ensuring a sustained water supply for farming activities.

Several investigations including hydro-geological, geophysical, and hydro-geochemical were carried out to decipher the conditions of aquifer, which in arid regions exhibited high vulnerability and low resilience. The thickness, confinement, and saturation levels of aquifers were found through geophysical investigations, whereas the hydro-geochemical assessments found the water quality (in the terms of dissolved solids) which were found to be within the permissible limits set by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS).

Based on the investigations, a participatory groundwater management action plan was prepared, under which recharge structures (including 43 trenches, 70 shafts, 6 gabion bandhara) were constructed spanning over an area of 13.36 sq. km.

Through these interventions, the groundwater level witnessed a noticeable increase by 1.50 meters which earlier varied from 3.20 to 14 meter. The pumping of water supply well surged from 2 hours per day to 8-9 hours per day.

![Normalized Differences Vegetation Index](image)

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1 ANI news article: https://www.aninews.in/news/national/politics/in-this-amravati-village-people-have-to-go-40-feet-down-to-fetch-drinking-water20190608235302/

2 Central Ground Water Board: http://cgwb.gov.in/Participatory-GW-management.html
The area to cultivate rabi crops expanded from 5 to 300 acres, which resulted in a 70% spike in production and income of farmers. Since project culmination in March 2018, three monsoon cycles have passed, resulting in rise of water level in aquifers thereby reducing villagers' dependence on tankers.

The GSDA, along with UNICEF support, are working to reinforce services and behaviors that are more resilient to the impact of climate change. By scaling up innovations like the use of hydrogeological data to target groundwater resources, farming communities in Maharashtra are provided with safe water during emergencies and otherwise. UNICEF Maharashtra is a key support partner to GSDA, Govt. of Maharashtra, in the implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission (Har Ghar Jal) Programme.
"We will make all out efforts to accomplish the goal of provision of tap water connection to every household" - Shri Malay Srivastava

Madhya Pradesh has 1.23 Crore rural households out of which about 33.20 Lakh (26%) have tap water connections as on today. Could you please share about the overall strategy & planning adopted to achieve this goal?

We have to cover more than 80 lac FHTCs in next 30 months. In 2020-21 we actually started in the month of May 2020, thereafter we lost about 1.5 months due to bye-elections in almost 35% districts. So practically we were left with about 8 months. Moreover major task was to make all the officers of the department and the public representatives including Gram Panchayats aware about JJM. Equally important was making available the State Share funding. In addition to making DPRs for new and retrofitting schemes, grant of different sanctioned, we parallel worked for procurement/sourcing of ISAs, TPIs, PMU, NABL accreditation of laboratories. Over and above , due to Covid the speed of implementation was also affected. So in nutshell we are likely to achieve over 22 Lac FHTCs in 2020-21 with above mentioned constraints.

So arithmetically we can achieve 30 X 2.75 = 82.5 lac FHTCs subject to availability of required funding from the State Govt, permission from State Govt to grant administrative approval to all MVsSs requiring 24-36 months for completion and most important availability/ feasibility of surface water source as 60% of villages have to be covered with surface water source.

The State had a slow start in 2019, but it has picked up considerable momentum currently. Could you elaborate on this turnaround and the progress made so far.

You are right, as I have mentioned above that actual implementation started from mid May 2020 when I joined PHED. I must thank Shri Bharat Lal, AS&MD, National Jal Jeevan Mission, who explained in detail the JJM on my 2nd day in the department and thereafter also he ensured guidance and full support at every stage. At the state level, we have formed a core team at the and spend almost 5-6 hours every day for 5 weeks during Covid period for the macro planning, doing SWOT analysis and thereafter micro-planning associating field level officers up to Sub-engineers as well as NGOs (UNICEF & WASH) through 2-3 VCs per week. In parallel, I sensitized Ministers and public representatives for overall guidance and absolute support from Hon’ble Chief Minister. I also had weekly VCs of CEOs of Zila Panchayats as role and involvement of Panchayats is extremely crucial not only for implementation but also for operation and maintenance of pipe-water schemes.

JJM is a community-managed programme. MP has over 51 thousand villages. What is the community involvement process adopted to reach out to every village for preparation of Village Action Plan and their approval?

As I mentioned above in addition to active involvement of NGOs who were already working in the water sector, we actively involved the Panchayat representatives
through CEOs of Zila & Janpad Panchayats. In fact we designated CEOs of ZP as the vice-chairman of DWSM so that they can actively be involved in the formation of VAP & DAP. This arrangement also expedited the process of approval of schemes by DWSM under chairmanship of District Collector. I am sure with the appointment of Implementing Support Agencies (ISAs), which has been partly done and balance is also likely to be completed soon will provide impetus to community involvement as well as participation.

The State is having water quality-affected issues, drought-prone and water-stressed areas. What is the strategy to address these issues?

We have taken up the quality-affected villages in the first stage, so that it can be covered on priority. We are also taking up water-stressed areas on priority, but majority of them will have to depend on the surface water sources.

Could you elaborate on the challenges you are facing in implementation of the Mission. What choices are helping address these?

The biggest challenge is the matching funding from the State Govt and even more the permission from State Govt to grant administrative approval before 31/3/2021 to all MVSs requiring 24-36 months for completion and most importantly availability/feasibility of surface water source as 60% of villages have to be covered with Surface water source. Also it is not possible to complete all the Retrofitting schemes before 31/3/2021. Some of the schemes will spill over to next financial year.

Ensuring drinking water quality is a key aspect of functionality under JJM. Could you share the measures taken towards this along with water quality testing laboratories.

We wanted the testing to be taken in a big way simultaneously across entire state as early as possible, therefore we kept a target of NABL accreditation of all district labs in this financial year itself, so that as the schemes start getting completed, we can ramp up testing. Now since JJM-URBAN has also been announced in the budget, it will be beneficial and used for urban areas also. We trained all our lab technicians across the state about importance and the process of NABL accreditation. We even had a large one day workshop at state HQ in presence of CEO-NABL to speed up the process.

Lastly, what keeps you motivated, especially given the scale of the Mission at its required speed?

My first motivation came from the Mission Director, NJJM. Moreover, the ultimate objective and output of JJM, i.e. providing safe drinking water to every household in rural areas sustains the motivation particularly after seeing the happiness and satisfaction in the eyes of rural family, which gets the tap water connection. I feel this mission will particularly succeed in empowerment of women and girls and will save the population from water-borne diseases, hence reducing the large financial drain to their pocket. I am sure Almighty God has given the opportunity to all of us associated in whatever manner to carry out this auspicious task. We will mark all out efforts to accomplish this goal.
Members of Parliament to play a critical role in implementation of Har Ghar Jal programme

Jal Jeevan Mission is a decentralized, demand-driven and community managed programme with Gram Panchayat and Village water and Sanitation Committee/ Pani Samiti and User Group playing a key role in planning, implementation, management, operation and maintenance of in-village water supply system.

The Mission empowers the Gram Panchayat/ VWSCs/ Pani Samiti to function as a public utility for assured water supply in every home by involving the community. The programme envisages important role for Members of Parliament in spreading awareness about the Har Ghar Jal scheme, mobilizing the community and empowering them to covert it into a ‘Jan Andolan.’

As per the Jal Jeevan Mission guidelines, Village Action Plan (VAP) requires dovetailing all the resources available under various programmes like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), 15th Finance Commission Grant, Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin (SBM-G), District Mineral Development Fund (DMDF), CSR Fund, MP/ MLA Local Area Development Fund and public contribution.

After drafting the VAP, the same is submitted to District Water and Sanitation Mission for collation. Member of Parliament is a public representative who voices the concern of the constituencies, therefore her/ his role becomes critical while planning developmental programmes for the community in the region.

Considering the role the Members of Parliaments (MPs) can play in planning & implementation of JJM, one advisory has been issued to States/ UTs. The salient aspects are as follows:

1. Member of Parliament, who is a Special Invitee for every meeting of District Water and Sanitation Mission to ensure implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission in accordance with the Operational Guidelines;

2. Review the physical and financial progress of the programme every quarter to assess the speed and analyze its progress based on the deliverables as proposed under the Annual Work Plan;

3. Support District implementing agency in resolving the bottlenecks enumerated during the meetings while implementing the programme;

4. Promote community engagement for smooth and effective implementation of the programme;

5. Prioritize convergence of MPLAD and Centrally Sponsored programme funds in the District/ Villages;

6. MPs to be consulted as District Action Plan is implemented by the district authorities. Members of Rajya Sabha must also be consulted for the district they represent while implementing the District Action Plan.;

7. MPs are nominated as Co-Chairman of District Level District Development Coordination Committee (DISHA) by the Ministry of Rural Development;

8. MPs may review the District Action Plan within 15 days of its submission and provide suggestions. If no response is received within the stipulated time, it may be deemed that there are no specific comments and Plan may be processed for further necessary action. If the suggestion made by the Member of Parliament cannot be incorporated in the District Plan, then the same must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting of Drinking Water and Sanitation Mission giving reason indicating constraints in implementing the suggestion;

9. Members of Parliament are consulted before declaring any district as Har Ghar Jal i.e.; 100% FHTC, to ensure that no one is left out; and

10. MPs are part of Bhoomi Pujan or inauguration of water supply scheme being implemented under Jal Jeevan Mission.
Less than 20 households may be considered as Habitation

In the Operational guidelines for implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission a habitation is defined as “a group of minimum 20 households and/or 100 persons. However, a hilly/ tribal and forested areas and Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes dominant habitations having lower number of households and/or persons are to be covered. Providing Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) for single houses/ farm houses far away from villages/ habitations are not to be funded under Jal Jeevan Mission.”

Few States mentioned that certain habitations known as ‘dhanis’ have less than 20 households and are left out of coverage under the Har Ghar Jal programme as JJM guidelines do not have provision for them.

The concern raised by the States was explained and a clarification in this regard to issued by Jal Jeevan Mission on 29th January, 2021, wherein it was decided that habitations with less than 20 households and/or 100 persons which are part of a revenue village, in hilly/ tribal and forested areas and Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes dominant villages and in water-stressed drought prone and desert areas, may also be taken up under Jal Jeevan Mission and provided with tap water connections for all such households.

Since Jal Jeevan Mission is a public fund, caution is required while creating water supply infrastructure using its grant. It is important to ensure that piped water supply is not be provided to standalone houses or farm houses, located far away from revenue villages.

Water is a State subject, therefore States are free to take up coverage of single houses/ farm houses away from revenue villages, but using State funds if they so desire.
Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) which is being implemented, aims at providing Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) to every rural household by 2024. The programme focuses on service delivery at the household level, i.e. water supply regularly in adequate quantity and prescribed quality. This necessitates the use of modern technology in systematic monitoring of the programme and to capture service delivery data automatically for ensuring the quality of services. Digitisation of water supply infrastructure has the potential to solve many problems. More importantly, it will help anticipate and address future challenges.

National Jal Jeevan Mission in partnership with Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) has launched an ICT Grand Challenge on 15th September, 2020 to create innovative, modular, and cost-effective solution to developing a ‘Smart Water Supply Measurement and Monitoring System’ to be deployed at the village level.

The ICT Grand Challenge will harness the vibrant IoT eco-systems of India for creating smart rural water supply eco-system to measure and monitor the service delivery of the water supply in rural areas. This challenge will provide an opportunity to work for the cause of Jal Jeevan Mission and to assure potable water supply through Functional Household Tap Connections to every rural household.

Enthusiastic participation was observed from all over India. Over 200 applications were received, from various sectors like LLP Companies, Indian Tech start-ups, Individuals etc. A jury has been set up with experts from NJJM, MEITY, academia, industry, C-DAC, STPI, COEs, etc.

Results of the First Stage of ICT Grand Challenge were announced in November, 2020. Based on the Jury recommendations, ten applicants have been selected for the prototype stage (Stage 2), and each is given funding support of Rs. 7.50 Lakhs, for the development of prototypes.

These prototypes were evaluated from 8th to 10th February, 2021. A water testbed has been set up for these demonstrations and evaluations at C-DAC located in Electronics City Campus, Bangalore. The top four techno-economically viable prototypes to be selected by the Jury in this stage and will send for product development. Each team will receive Rs. 25 Lakh funding to build their solution as per the need.

This would be followed by field trial, testing & deployment and demonstration at approximately 25 locations per prototype across the country. Based on the evaluation, one winner and two runner-ups will be selected and awarded Rs. 50 Lakh (winner) and 20 Lakh each (runner-ups).

The successful developers will join the MeitY supported incubator/ CoEs to nurture their solution further. The technologies that developed & demonstrated successfully may be listed in the GeM portal. This will boost the idea and thrust of initiatives like Atmanirbhar Bharat, Digital India and Make in India.
Reshmi and her husband Arun Chaturvedi are a truly today’s couple as they work together to make their ends meet. Both are earning and contribute equally to household chores along with bringing up their child. Arun gets income by working in a shop while Reshmi works as a pump operator; certainly, a flip to what a conventional society decides for most of us. This is not a story from urban India, but from the remote village of Madhya Pradesh, where the development is seeping in, not just through infrastructure, but also by blurring gender barriers, gradually & steadily.

Reshmi belongs to village Dulhara, Umariya District of Madhya Pradesh where Jal Jeevan Mission is in full swing in providing Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTCs) to every household. Jal Jeevan Mission implemented by Ministry of Jal Shakti in partnership with States aims to provide adequate drinking water of prescribed quality on a regular and long-term basis to every rural household in the country by 2024. Under the initiative, Madhya Pradesh plans to enable 100% FHTC status by the year 2023.

Dulhara is like any other rural area of Madhya Pradesh- where agriculture and animal husbandry are main sources of livelihood. But it has one major exception- here women are leaping off the barriers of conventional gender disparity and taking the leadership role.

Reshmi is not the only village woman here who is into the contemporary role. The Village Water & Sanitation Committee (VWSC) here has 8 women and 6 men, who are steering the progress of waterworks in the village. The committee under the women leaders is efficiently managing the tariff collection, and sensitizing villagers on the judicious usage and maintenance of tap water connection. Madhya Pradesh Jal Nigam Maryadit (MPJNM) is implementing a multi village water supply scheme (MVS) covering 19 villages of Manpur Block of Umariya district of Madhya Pradesh. This MVS will provide treated drinking water for the approximate population of 61,294 through household tap water connections. The operation and maintenance of scheme are carried out by Jindal Water Infrastructure Limited (JWIL) in coordination with VWSCs. The operation of valves and meters is carried out by deploying valves of these villages. Scope and level of activities of women are ever-increasing in villages under many developmental programmes that has encouraged the State to involve them in the operation and maintenance of multi village schemes.

Under this background and from directions received, a pilot initiative for the involvement of women SHGs functioning in NRLM was planned for O&M of the Manpur MVS.

Another inspiring story is of Rekha Pradhan who is a 10th pass tribal woman, working as a pump operator in the village Kathar. She daily travels 3 km to Kathar from her house in Bharmila village. Her husband is a MNREGA labourer and is very proud of her wife’s will & hard work. Rekha is a torchbearer for other tribal women of her area as not she has surpassed multiple impediments to create a niche for herself. “I wish to learn more and train other women of my society,” says Rekha with an astute determined look in her eyes. Manpur MVS has one more pump operator Ms. Gyani Yadav of Kolar village who holds a Graduate degree setting an example for other women of her community.

Traditionally, women were considered to be the best managers for household water usage and maintenance. Today, these women pump operators & VWSC members are substantiating this thought and beyond. They can be the best pick for water management- at any level-as, their sensitivity towards the subject is the key to their best performance. Thanks to Jal Jeevan Mission for making the silent evolution happen.
The National Jal Jeevan Mission team visited Bilaspur, Rajnadgaon and Jangir-Champa in Chhattisgarh between 20th to 23rd December, 2020. At present, the State has only 12% Functional Households Tap Connections (FHTCs). In order to achieve 100% FHTC target by 2023 as planned, nearly 45.48 lakh households to be provided await piped water connection.

So far 64 villages have been declared Har Ghar Jal villages and 3 water testing laboratories are NABL accredited in Chhattisgarh.

A team of 5 women member has been constituted in every Gram Panchayat to carry out water testing using Field Test Kits (FTKs). Training on how to use the FTKs was imparted to the committee members so that test results derived using the FTKs are accurate and reliable.

In most villages water bodies, ponds and wet lands are equipped with Ground Water recharge system to get enhanced yield. The recharge system goes a long way in maintaining sustainability of water sources.

Most single village schemes are Solar based meant specifically for scattered habitations with negligible operation and maintenance cost. Villagers are happy to regularly pay water user charge since potable drinking water is provided to them within the household on regular basis.

Hon’ble Minister of Jal Shakti and Hon’ble Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh co-chaired a meeting on 18.01.2021 at Lucknow to review the planning and implementation of JJM in the State of Uttar Pradesh. Earlier, a number of review meetings have also been held with the State of Uttar Pradesh including the recent meeting held on 15.01.2021 under the chairmanship of Secretary, DDWS. Accordingly, a twelve-member team of National Jal Jeevan Mission (six teams of two members each) visited the 12 districts of State of Uttar Pradesh during 27-30 January, 2021 to assist the State team in understanding ground situation, resolving key issues, and to discuss about the planning of FHTC coverage in the villages. The team visited Jhansi, Lalitpur, Rae Bareli, Sultanpur, Mirzapur, Chandauli, Kannauj, Unnao, Barabanki, Gonda, Bhagpat & Saharanpur.

NJM team visited the twelve districts along with officials of Jal Nigam and Minor Irrigation (MI). The purpose of the visit was to conduct discussions with executing agencies and district officials about planning of FHTCs and for 100% saturation and also to understand the institutional arrangement of the executing agencies in the districts. The team visited the villages & habitations to see the functionality of water supply schemes and held interaction with the beneficiaries of the scheme. NJM team assessed the tap connection coverage in aganwadi centres and schools and the gauged the progress of the mission under 100-day campaign. Team also conducted visits to district laboratories and sensitized the executing agencies for achieving 100% progress in PWS villages.

06 members of the team from the National Jal Jeevan Mission visited 5 districts namely Ernakulam, Thrissur, Kollam, Pathanamthitta and Thrivunanthapuram of Kerala State from 15-18 February, 2021 to see the implementation in the field and to provide technical assistance to expedite the implementation of the program.

After the field visit, some of the observations made by the team that the physical progress of FHTCs is 1.9 lakh (9%) against a target of 21.42 Lakh in which 2.65 Lakh FHTCs have been provided so far. The team represented the State to expedite the contract agreement after the award of the contract needs to be resolved so that smooth implementation can be done in a timely manner. In addition to this, tap connection in a ward/ habitation is completed in a single phase to expedite progress to avoid repeated road cutting works and inconvenience to the people. Progress under the 100-day special campaign is also poor, which required prioritizing on the ground and at reporting in this.
A 10-member team from Jal Jeevan Mission visited in West Bengal from 4th to 7th February, 2021 with the aim to provide technical assistance on issues related to implementation of the programme. The team visited villages in Purulia and provided technical inputs on the DPR for multi-village scheme. It was observed that the State needs to take up retrofitting of existing structures at the earliest to meet the target set to reach every rural household by 2024. The DPR of ‘Surface water’ for the entire district of Birbhum and Nabagram block in Berhampore (Part); Murshidabad- Jiaganj (Part) block of district Murshidabad; and Ketugram 1 and Ketugram 2 blocks of Purba Bardhaman district’ was analyzed.

Out of 1,149 Arsenic affected habitations, 834 have been accorded administrative and financial approval, while balance 215 await approval. Out of 164 Fluoride affected habitations, 107 have been approved, while 57 awaited permission. A large number of unapproved Arsenic scheme fall in the district of Malda and Murshidabad. In case of Fluoride, large number of unapproved schemes are in the districts of Dakshin Dinajpur and Purulia. There is need to expedite the preparation of Village Action Plan for 20,680 villages, for which SLSSC has already given approval.

In continuation with the earlier visit of NJM team to Assam in December 2020, another team visited the State from 7th-10th February, 2021 to extend the technical assistance to State as well to discuss other issues for smooth implementation of JJM in the State. The objective of the visit is to expedite the implementation of the mission in the State with a focus on prudent investment. The 10-member team visited around 5 villages daily and discussed the technical and other aspects of the mission with the PHED officials. The team also interacted with Gram Panchayats, VWSC members and local community. The team at the end of the tour debriefed the Additional Chief Secretary, PHED at the State Headquarter. The team visited Konwargaon Single Village Scheme of Konwargaon, Mayang Block, Titatula SVS of Titatula, Laharighat Block, and BuraBuri MVS of BuraBuri, Mayang Block.
Not Just A Pipe Dream
An article on JJM in India Today

With four years to India @ 75, what we have achieved, where we fell short and the agenda we need to set to fulfill our great potential - Shri Bharat Lal, AS&MD (NJMM)

On 15th August, 2019, when India celebrated its 73rd Independence Day 1 in every six, of the 191 million rural households in the country had functional tap connections that supplied them potable water for drinking and other domestic use. A majority had to depend either on a nearby hand pump or a walk to the well. The burden of collecting the water fell usually on the women and girl children of the household, resulting in loss of time and energy.

In the 1950s and 60s, the focus was on construction of new wells and renovation of the old ones to provide water to households. With the launch of Accelerated Rural water Supply programme in 1972, the focus has shifted to sinking borewells and providing hand pumps...

In 1986, National Drinking Water Mission was launched that fixed the source of drinking water supply within half a km of a household instead of prevailing 1.6 km.

By the turn of the century, the focus shifted to promoting safe piped drinking water to households on a gradual basis.

When Prime Minister Narendra Modi was reelected to the post in 2019, he announced the launch of Jal Jeevan Mission in his Independence Day address to provide safe water from a functional tap connection to every rural household by 2024.

The Prime Minister also introduced another significant change when he consolidated the different Ministries dealing with water issues, whether for drinking, irrigation or conservation into a super Ministry called Jal Shakti for better coordination and speedier development. For the Har Ghar Jal Mission, he set aside Rs 3.6 Lakh Crore, Shri Bharal Lal, Additional Secretary & Mission Director says, “By providing tap water to every rural household, the focus is on assured quality and supply. The aim is not only ensure ease of living but also enhance the quality of life, especially for the female members of the household.”

The Har Ghar Jal programme has already seen 33 million households provided with piped water. Technology is employed to monitor every aspect of the programme, including geo-tagging of every piped connection and checking of water potability with instant alerts to maintenance staff for aberrations. All rural households are also covered under the programme so that children have access to safe water and therefore not prone to water-borne diseases. There is a programme to reuse the grey water after having it purified for agriculture or industry to avoid wastage. Jal Jeevan Mission is proving to be a job generator, employing hundreds of thousands in the scheme. The Mission Director says, “By providing tap water we intend to not just ensure ‘Ease of Living’ but enhance quality of life for household women.”

...Read more
Media briefing on budgetary allocation

Shri Pankaj Kumar, Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti briefed media regarding the Union Budget outlay for 2020-21 financial year in Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation increased to 9 thousand 22 Crore from 7 thousand 262 Crore.

Addressing the media he said, the budgetary allocation for Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) increased significantly to 50 thousand 11 Crore along with 15th Finance Commission tied grants of 36 thousand 22 Crore rupees available under water and sanitation. The Ministry is developing portable device to check the water quality in villages. AS & MD, Shri Bharat Lal explained in details the plan, approval and progress made so far under Jal Jeevan Mission. Sensor-based Internet of Things (IoT) solutions are being developed to measure and monitor water supply in villages. NJJM is working with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and trying to develop Portable Domestic Water Quality Testing Device to test water quality in homes.

To ensure that water is regularly tested at source and end points, water testing laboratories are getting accredited by National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) and shall be open to public for water testing at nominal rates.
Union Ministers jointly launch Unified Portal of Gobardhan to promote Gobardhan scheme and track real-time progress

Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Hon’ble Union Minister, Jal Shakti, Shri Rattan Lal Kataria, State Minister, Jal Shakti has jointly launched the Unified Portal of Gobardhan on 3rd February, 2021 in the presence of Union Minister, Agriculture, and Farmers Welfare and Rural Development, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar; Union Minister of Petroleum, Natural Gas and Steel and Shri Dharmendra Pradhan; Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Shri Giriraj Singh.

Shri Pankaj Kumar, Secretary, Department of Water Resources while addressing the virtual 6th edition of India Industry Water Conclave & 8th edition of FICCI Water Awards, said that awareness of water issues and mobilization of community in addressing them is the need of the hour. “Every problem is an opportunity. The management of water resources has seen a paradigm shift in India in the recent years even as water governance has been placed at the forefront of the country’s development agenda.”
Consultative Committee meeting of Ministry of Jal Shakti reviews progress made under the life changing ‘Jal Jeevan Mission’ Programme

The Consultative Committee meeting of Ministry of Jal Shakti was held on 11th February, 2021 under the chairmanship of Hon’ble Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat. Minister of State for Jal Shakti, Shri Rattan Lal Kataria was also present. 18 Members of Parliament attended the meeting and actively participated in the discussion held on progress of Jal Jeevan Mission. The MPs appreciated the efforts of National Jal Jeevan Mission for the progress made for provision of safe drinking water in rural households through tap water connections despite Covid-19 pandemic and gave suggestions for faster implementation of the mission works in their constituencies.

Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi addressed the webinar for consultation with stakeholders on roadmap for effective implementation of Union Budget 2021-22 in the infrastructure sector on 16th February, 2021

The webinar witnessed the participation of more than 200 panelists including representatives of major financial institutions, officials from Ministry of Jal Shakti, manufacturers, concessionaires & contractors, consultants and subject matter experts. The panelists shared their ideas on improving the pace and quality of infrastructure development, with focus on advanced technology, and attracting more investments in the sector.

This webinar was followed by two parallel breakout sessions involving discussions between senior officials of groups of ministries and cross-sectional experts to compile a list of implementable projects to fast-track implementation of the budget vision and draft an implementation roadmap. Ongoing consultations have also been planned with stakeholders on the implementation of the finalized strategy.
In these Haryana villages, PM Modi’s Nal Se Jal has ended a painful daily chore for women

Kurukshetra, Karnal: For some, the change in 50-year-old Phoolkali’s life may appear incremental.

Working in her small farm, a few yards away from her two-room house, the resident of Ballahi village in Haryana’s Kurukshetra district is almost ecstatic. It had been close to two decades that Phoolkali had been fetching buckets of water from the nearest supply point, which is about 400 metres away, to meet her family’s daily requirement.

The distance might not be very far, but the mother of two says only someone who has been lifting bucketful of water twice a day for the last two decades will be able to understand how her life has changed in the last three months after the administration brought water supply right to her doorstep, under the Centre’s flagship ‘Nal Se Jal’ programme.

“Balti choot gaya (I no longer have to lift buckets of water),” Phoolkali tells ThePrint, adding, “You don’t know what a blessing it is. Every single day, rain or biting cold, I had to go out to fetch water.”

Phoolkali’s house is among the last of the 35 in Ballahi village that recently got a drinking water connection, making Kurukshetra one of the five districts, where each of the 1.39 Lakh rural households has now got a functional tap water connection. …Read more

In rural Punjab, Nal Se Jal has brought not just water but also a luxury few had: ‘free time’

Rupnagar: Jasveer Kaur, 43, who lives on the outskirts of Dumna village in Punjab’s Rupnagar district, suddenly has a luxury she never had before — time. With the Narendra Modi government’s ‘Har Ghar Nal Se Jal’ scheme bringing assured access to water twice a day — within the comfort of her own home — she has kissed a long, painful struggle goodbye.

“The frequency of water supply in my house was very irregular… The motor of my submersible (pump) would get fried every second day, after which I had to beg the neighbours for water,” she told The Print. “Sometimes they agreed and sometimes they didn’t, which made my life hectic every day as my work was delayed.”

There is a monthly fee of Rs 175/- that she has to pay for the tap water connection under the Nal Se Jal programme, which aims to connect all rural households with drinking water supply pipelines by 2024, but Kaur doesn’t mind.

“This assured twice-a-day tap water supply has changed my life as I can spare time to do other, more productive things,” added Kaur. …Read more

In J&K’s Ganderbal, Nal Se Jal has reached all rural houses

Residents in plains say Har Ghar Nal Se Jal has helped resolve the issues they faced earlier, but those living in Ganderbal heights aren’t happy with water pressure.

Ganderbal: Shaheen Ahmed, a Ganderbal-based businessman, has no doubt that the Narendra Modi government’s Har Ghar Nal Se Jal programme — which seeks to ensure drinking water supply to every rural household by 2024 — has made things better in the district.

Manzoor Ahmed Lone, the sarpanch for Kangan in Ganderbal, also has a similar opinion. …Read more
नवभारत भावली से जलापूर्ति को मंजूरी

जल जीवन मिशन : 97 गांवों को हिलेंगा जल

8 करोड़ 12 लाख की रोशनी से स्वीकृत जल जीवन मिशन योजना के तहत भर्तियों सुनिक्षय

20 गांवों में घर-घर पहुंचेगा पेयजल

Jal Jeevan Samvad

50 villages to get more water under Jal Jeevan Mission by March-end

CMO Madhya Pradesh

CMO Madhya Pradesh

Jal Jeevan Mission in News
Our children are our future & it's important they stay healthy & strong. Like the Swachh Bharat Mission in Modi 1.0, Jal Jeevan Mission is transforming lives at the grassroots in Modi 2.0.

A 100-day campaign to provide tap water to anganwadis & schools was launched on 2 October, 2020.

Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat
Union Minister of Jal Shakti