In this issue

Prime Minister on Jal Jeevan Mission

Note from the desk of Additional Secretary & Mission Director
- Bharat Lal ..................................................2

JJM Progress
Progressive coverage - Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) ........4
Comparative FHTC coverage status of States/ UTs .................................4
Drinking water — From drudgery to empowerment
- Chandra Prabha & Devina Srivastava .............................................6
JJM: Enabling an institutional architecture for a stronger PHE sector
- Amit Shukla, Karishma Kadyan ..............9
Learning through Exposure Visits - JJM implementation in Gujarat
- WASMO, Gujarat ........................................12
A month-long campaign to empower village communities
- PHED, Arunachal Pradesh ......................14
Centralised water information & management system in Rajasthan
- PHED, Rajasthan .................................16
Participatory mapping exercises inspire community action
- Madhuri Shukla .................................17
NJJM team conducts workshops in Jammu & Kashmir ......................19

NCC cadets share their JJM experiences ...........................................21
Union Minister of Jal Shakti inaugurated multiple water projects across Arunachal Pradesh ...........................................23
Union Minister of Jal Shakti chairs Conference of PHED Ministers of NE States on JJM ...........................................24
National workshop of Engineer-in-Chief/Chief Engineers on implementation of JJM ...........................................26
NJJM organizes National Conferences with KRCs ................................27
Minister of State, Jal Shakti reviews JJM works in States ......................29
Pilot project deployed under IoT initiative of JJM ................................30
Actions from the Field .............................................31
Jal Jeevan Mission in News ..................................32
Glimpses from the field ......................................33
प्रदूषित पानी, भारत ही नहीं पूरे विश्व और खासकर गरीब और विकासशील देशों की बहुत बड़ी समस्या है। भारत में इस चुनौती से निपटने के लिए हम 17 करोड़ से अधिक घरों तक, पाइप से साफ पानी पहुंचाने का बहुत बड़ा अभियान चला रहे हैं।

‘संयुक्त राष्ट्र महासभा (UNGA)’ में प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी का संबोधन, 25 सितंबर 2021
Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) is not about mere 'infrastructure creation' but a programme to ensure long-term 'service delivery', to ensure that the water supply schemes last its full design period or more so that all rural households get assured tap water supply in adequate quantity of prescribed quality with adequate pressure on regular and long-term basis. It is a mission that aims to improve quality of life and enhance 'ease of living' of rural communities, provide them dignity by also bridging the urban-rural divide.

To achieve the vision of JJM, it is very important to re-orient both the public health engineering department and other non-engineering stakeholders. The people managing the water supply services at all levels, i.e. village, GP, district and State, need to be sensitized about the philosophy, approach and strategy being adopted to realise the goal of the mission, for which training and reorientation programmes are essential to enable them to discharge their assigned roles effectively. The programmes are to be customized to suit different levels covering various technical, managerial and leadership aspects. JJM offers a platform and opportunity to develop future leadership in water sector through such capacity building/ change management programmes.

To facilitate the same, partnerships are being built with diverse stakeholders. The essence of JJM is 'building partnerships, changing lives'. Advocacy and implementation organizations with sector expertise such as UN agencies/ trust/ foundations, etc. are identified and have joined hands with JJM as sector partners. At village level, VOs/ NGOs/ CBOs/ etc. are being roped in as Implementation Support Agencies (ISAs). Similarly, 104 Key Resource Centres (KRCs) have been empanelled across the country dedicated for training and capacity building programmes. Each KRC selected for State, district or village-level after a rigorous scrutiny presented their detailed annual action plan and road map for conducting training, and reorientation programmes. All these agencies are envisaged to play a huge role by dovetailing their efforts and expertise to bring the desired change in mindset of various stakeholders involved in ensuring drinking water security in villages.

KRCs play a critical role in designing, developing and implementing capacity building programmes, for representatives of local bodies, CBOs, ISAs, etc. thus creating new generations of 'responsive and responsible' leadership at grassroot level in the water sector, and developing local water utilities where GPs and/ or its sub-committees are acting as service providers.

For KRCs, as training partners, as they play an important role in building capacities of stakeholders at different levels, three national workshops were organized to bring all of them on the same page and act as facilitators and enablers. While UNICEF as the sector partner organized some of these workshops, Dr. R. S. Tolia Uttarakhand Academy, Nainital has been conducting workshops and seminars for State-level officers and engineers. This is how JJM is building partnerships, working together, and changing lives.

JJM is implemented through institutional mechanism at four levels, viz. National Jal Jeevan Mission (NJMJ) at national level; State Water and Sanitation Mission (SWSM) at state level; District Water and Sanitation Mission (DWSM) at district level; and GP/ sub-committee of GP, i.e. Village Water & Sanitation Committee (VWSC)/ Pani Samiti/ User Group, etc. KRCs are partnering with NJMJ to usher 'change management' at all these levels, especially at the village level who are tasked with the responsibility of managing, operating and maintaining in-village water supply systems.

Apart from the National workshops, NJMJ has also been facilitating in-person State-level workshops with sector experts visiting the locations. All workshops, be it National or State-levels, are being broadcasted live on JJM’s official social media handles so that junior officers and other stakeholders involved in the implementation of the mission also get to stay updated through rich deliberations as well as cross learning. It is also an effort to build a resource bank and make it available in the public domain for increased transparency and accountability. This is how JJM is promoting digital governance.
The National Jal Jeevan Mission organized a few critical training programmes this September. Recognizing the crucial role of Engineers-in-Chief/Chief Engineers, in overall planning, design and implementation of water supply works in the States/UTs, a one-day national workshop on implementation of JJM was organized with focus on 'service delivery' approach. Similar training-cum-review programme was organized in Jammu and Kashmir for all the PHED engineers. One-day conference of ministers in-charge of rural water supply of NE States was also held in Guwahati under the chairmanship of Union Minister of Jal Shakti.

The training programmes are also being implemented in mission-mode across the country. In every village, five women are being trained on water quality testing using Field Testing Kits (FTKs). The women are also trained on leading sanitary inspections in the villages which will ensure regular cleanliness checks and health of the water supply systems. They are also provided FTKs to take up regular water quality testing and upload the data on JJM portal. So far, about 7.5 lakh women have been trained across the country. Similarly, to ensure availability of skilled human resources in villages, local youth are being trained as plumbers, masons, electricians, motor mechanics, fitters, pump operators, etc. so that skilled human resources are readily available for faster execution of water supply works as well as for regular operation and maintenance without causing any disruption in the supply. This also helps in creating employment opportunities in villages.

I am happy to share that the 'National Centre for Drinking Water, Sanitation and Quality' (NCDWSQ) set up as an apex institution on 'public health engineering' at Kolkata, is working with KRCs by providing them regular training, education, and updates required for facilitation. This issue of Jal Jeevan Samvad also carries details about the vision of NCDWSQ and the critical role it will have in shaping the career of public health engineers by imparting training.

Assured potable water supply and improved sanitation has been recognised by the 15th Finance Commission as national priorities and therefore, huge sum of Rs. 1.42 lakh Crore has been allocated as tied-grant for water and sanitation to Rural Local Bodies (RLBs)/PRIs from 2021-2022 to 2025-2026. Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation (DDWS), Ministry of Jal Shakti has prepared a 'Manual for the utilization of 15th FC tied grants to RLBs/PRIs for water & sanitation', which is planned to be released by the Prime Minister. States are requested to get the guidelines translated into vernacular language and make it available to every Gram Panchayat/ VWSC/ Pani Samiti as well as to local water supply/ PHED engineers, who are tasked to handhold GPs/ VWSCs/ Pani Samitis in shouldering these responsibilities. Training programme to be arranged to train the functionaries of local bodies in different aspects of the tied grant for effective utilization of this huge amount. This tied grant provides a big opportunity to strengthen local self-Governments with focus on ‘assured service delivery’.

This year, when the nation is celebrating ‘Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav’, special Gram Sabha on Jal Jeevan Mission is convened in every village on 2nd October, 2021 to deliberate on the issues of drinking water and sanitation. Hon'ble Prime Minister has given his kind consent to address the nation-wide Gram Sabha to be conducted on 2nd October, 2021.

I am also happy to add that, despite CoVid-19 pandemic and subsequent challenges, with relentless efforts of States/UTs, since launch of the mission in August, 2019, about 5.03 Crore families in rural areas have been provided tap water connections. This speed and momentum need to be maintained to accomplish the goal in time.

JJM offers a unique opportunity for stakeholders to be part of this transformative mission tasked to work with the ‘speed and scale’ ensuring long-term assured tap water supply to every home. With monsoon session coming to an end, it is time to restart the work on the ground to achieve the universal coverage by 2024. To achieve this, 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. I am sure all of us will move forward with the ‘service delivery’ approach focusing especially on empowering our communities to manage, operate & maintain in-village water supply systems.
Progressive coverage - Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) (as on 30.09.2021)

Comparative FHTC coverage status of States/ UTs (as on 30.09.2021)
Progressive coverage - Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC)

Comparative FHTC coverage status of States/UTs (as on 30.09.2021)

| Source: JJM-IMIS |

As on 30th September, 2021

- Total number of households (HHs): 19,22,72,997
- Households with tap water connections as on 15 Aug 2019: 3,23,62,838 (16.83%)
- Households with tap water connections as on date: 8,26,39,504 (42.98%)

Households provided with tap water connection since launch of the Mission: 5,02,76,666 (26.15%)

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

- 100% FHTC States/UTs
- 100% FHTC Districts: 79
- 100% FHTC Blocks: 943
- 100% FHTC Panchayats: 58,016
- 100% FHTC Villages: 1,16,086

As on 15th August, 2019

As on 30th September, 2021

Source: JJM-IMIS
Drinking water – From drudgery to empowerment

- Chandra Prabha & Devina Srivastava

Most Indian rural women have experienced the toil of collecting water. Water drudgery is their personal experience - they have either walked long distances to get headloads of water, waited daylong in queues to get their supplies or struggled for a toehold at a crowded water source. Given that an individual consumes about 50 litres of water per day for drinking, cooking and washing, women struggle to haul that much water home for every member of the household. In her sickness, her children take up her task and often adolescent girls take the mantle of their mother.

This scenario of the drudgery of her role also speaks of her lost opportunities in education, employment, leisure, and other aspects of self-development — all to provide water for household needs. Further, the lack of safe drinking water in rural areas has been the leading cause of diseases, preventable morbidity, high infant mortality rate and diminished development of children — all these factors further make difficult her chores. Rural women know this vicious cycle of inaccessibility of potable water all too well.

As of 15th August 2019, when Jal Jeevan Mission was announced, about 17% of rural households had access to potable tap water supply in their homes, meaning women and young girls in the remaining 83% of rural households fetched water from a distance from a public source. Apart from the time it took in collecting water, the quality of water they sourced was not assured.

Role in village water management

In terms of policy design, the first enabling step for community role in village-level drinking water supply planning, implementation and management was taken in 1993 with the 73rd Constitutional Amendment giving PRIs the constitutional status and village-level management of drinking water resources among other aspects of PRI governance. In the subsequent years, the success of demand-driven and community-led programmes in Gujarat and many other states provided robust examples of grassroots leadership in managing village water resources and drinking water supply.

Under JJM, Gram Panchayats and/or its sub-committees, i.e. Village Water Supply Development Authorities (VWSAs), were empowered to manage water supplies at the village level. It was found that women members of Pani Samis have an average of 10-12 members in which 50% are women.

The number of women in a VWSC/Pani Sami was increased. Under JJM, at least 50% Pani Sami members are women. JJM also increased the representation in Pani Samis. Over 83% women in initially had only 30% representation in Pani Samis. However, when implementing the rural drinking water supply programme in Gujarat, states provided robust examples of grassroots leadership in managing village water resources and drinking water supply.

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and Sanitation Committee (VWSC)/Pani Samiti/ User Groups, etc. play the lead role in planning, implementation, management, operation and maintenance of their in-village water supply schemes. The VWSC comprises 10-12 members in which women have 50% representation, and SCs/STs have a proportional representation. VWSC/ Pani Samiti takes vital decisions about their in-village drinking water supply system.

Elected panchayat members, anganwadi workers, ASHA workers, school teachers or any village resident inspiring community confidence can be nominated for VWSC/ Pani Samiti. A VWSC/ Pani Samiti works with the Gram Sabha to firm up their Village Action Plan for water, sanitation and hygiene, including measures for groundwater recharge, greywater treatment, recycle & reuse, and drinking water source strengthening, etc. The process creates awareness on water and allied issues.

The number of women in a VWSC/ Pani Samiti and their role is critical to the success given that that traditionally women have been managing household water needs and have the sensitisation of complex issues around it. Through these user groups, cadre of women water managers being available at the village level will ensure long-term security and sustainability of in-village water resources.

It is noteworthy that women members of VWSC/ Pani Samiti have consistently excelled in providing strategic direction to in-village water supply development in several States. When implementing the rural water supply programme in Gujarat, women initially had only 30% representation in Pani Samitis. Over time, for the value women's leadership brought to village community, their representation in the samiti was increased. Under JJM, at least 50% Pani Samiti members are women. In fact, many states, including Gujarat, give more than 50% representation to women on VWSC/ Pani Samiti.

Gujarat, in fact, has a number of all-women Pani Samitis. The learning from Gujarat model and other community-led initiatives in the drinking water sector have informed the women's role in JJM programme implementation. The success of a VWSC/ Pani Samiti is defined by optimal services to all village households and user fee collection as determined by their Panchayat. It is found that women members of VWSC/ Pani Samiti draw better community response and water supply user fee collection, which is critical for in-village waterworks sustainability.

As the rightful managers of in-village water supply works, VWSC/ Pani Samiti ensures its day-to-day smooth working in providing assured quality and quantity of water to each of their village households. They lead the charge of ensuring potability of water supplied through regular water quality testing for common contaminants using especially developed field test kits. They also undertake monitoring and surveillance of waterworks to prevent water contamination. As a facilitator, JJM provides training to VWSC/ Pani Samiti members in waterworks O&M, and in every village at least five women members are trained in water quality testing. Further, in many villages, women are also taking the role of pump operation, traditionally considered a male vocation.

During the programme implementation phase, VWSC/ Pani Samiti work with the programme Implementation Support Agencies, Public Health Engineering Department/ Department of Rural Water Supply to facilitate their decision-making for common good. Their capacity
building process takes them through a lot of learning in collective community work and efficient operation and management of in-village water utility, preparing them to lead the charge of village water management and conservation, sanitation and hygiene.

**Social and financial freedom**

Adequate water availability holds the key to socio-economic development. Circumstances involving water drudgery often force women to abstain from pursuing their educational, social and financial goals. This results in a lack of participation of women in income generation opportunities, loss of school days for girls and also adverse health impacts as a result of the drudgery. Jal Jeevan Mission has brought ‘ease of living’ for rural communities, especially women. While women have always been a significant contributor to water governance at local levels in the past, they were denied technical and leadership roles owing to cultural norms and their lack of education and training. This divide based on gender roles impacts the water sector and society as a whole. Rural schemes like MGNREGA do provide employment opportunities to women but their role is limited to being a worker or a caretaker. Jal Jeevan Mission is a first of a kind Central government programme that promotes women in all activities around in-village water utility, including its operation and management.

Women work at farms, cook, clean, take care of the elderly, kids and cattle. The non-availability of clean drinking water in the close vicinity of their homes forces them to carry water from far in rough terrain, bad weather, illness and pregnancy at the risk of harm. Through policy intervention, Jal Jeevan Mission has taken into account the arduous journey of rural women, and thus focuses on her dignity and empowerment.

Women’s engagement in JIM has the potential of greater deliverance than what their immediate role demands. Women have found a new ground of their democratic privileges and duties, and an opportunity for collective working, and skilling oneself in listening, negotiations, discussions and leadership, not to mention hard skills of O&M of in-village waterworks. In a way, JIM has given village women a new direction. It has played its part in creating an informed community. It gives hope of young girls pursuing their education, women taking up technical challenges like pump operation, water governance, supply and distribution, water quality testing and reporting, etc. A UN study has shown that panchayats with more women as members perform better in projects such as drinking water supply and sanitation. The JJM seeks to provide a platform for their participation as well as empowerment. Women must lead JJM in their villages to meet their needs and aspirations. It is said, an informed community is an empowered community. But, JJM village community is more than that. The mission provides an enabling environment for both informed and engaged community.

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*Women led Pani Samiti during water resource mapping exercise*
On 15th August, 2019 from the ramparts of the Red Fort, the Hon’ble Prime Minister announced Jal Jeevan Mission to provide piped water supply to every rural household in the country by 2024, an ambitious programme largely sought to mitigate the drudgery borne by women and young girls across the country.

Launched on the heels of the success of India’s own sanitation revolution – the Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) — Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), being implemented by the Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation, is a multi-dimensional national flagship programme approaching the water sector not in silos but as an integrated sector with end-to-end service delivery support with greywater management and source sustainability measures. It seeks to fulfil the promise of assured safe drinking water supply for all but is changing the game with a 'utility-mindset'. Panchayats, and their sub-committees, across the country are now being empowered and enabled to perform the functions of a public utility. It is now not enough to only provide this basic service, the objective is to ensure long-term drinking water security for all.

However, a shift in focus, such as the one envisioned by JJM, requires, prima facie, the existing administrative structure to transform from a department-based and construction/infrastructure centred approach to a utility approach, viz. sustainable operation and maintenance (O&M) of systems, undertaking water budgeting and audits at regular intervals, user charges recovery, reducing energy charges by adopting conjunctive use of water as well as renewable energy, measuring and accounting water drawl, proactively addressing public grievances, timely water quality monitoring and surveillance, and regular training of local community to build responsible and responsive leadership.

In this context, given that drinking water supply is a State subject, the State Water and Sanitation Departments/Public Health Engineering Departments urgently require to revamp their approach, methodology and processes in providing potable drinking water at the doorsteps of rural households. Institutional development is a key driver to building and sustaining the rural drinking water and sanitation sector.

**The 'hub-and-spoke' model**

In 2013, the 'International Centre for Drinking Water Quality' was set up as an autonomous institution under the then Ministry of Drinking Water and...
Sanitation. With changing priorities over the course of the remaining decade, the institution was renamed as 'National Centre for Drinking Water, Sanitation and Quality' (NCDWSQ) in 2018 to accommodate a more holistic approach to the sector with the inclusion of sanitation in its scope.

Given the growing opportunity and need for expert guidance and world-class interventions, it was decided to further broaden the scope of the NCDWSQ under the new paradigm of Jal Jeevan Mission to support strategic reforms in the Public Health Engineering sector, using both national and global experiences, and become a reliable and hands-on technical agency supporting field implementation at the national level, with the ability to inform the global dialogue for drinking water, sanitation and hygiene. The institute will form synergies with the key PHE institutions to support all round development in the sector.

**The National Centre for Drinking Water, Sanitation and Quality**

As the 'Hub' of the 'hub-and-spoke' model, the NCDWSQ is envisaged to play the role of an anchor offering a complete range of activities and areas of engagement, complemented by 'spokes' with specialised services – Key Resource Centres (KRCs), regional Centres of Excellence and Professor Chairs, set-up in collaboration with the Central and state governments universities/institutions, international and regional organisations, and State Water and Sanitation Departments/PHEDs.

An Expert Committee has been constituted under the chairpersonship of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, in the context of JJM and SBM(G), to finalise the focussed areas, vision and the strategic plan to develop the NCDWSQ as an institute of international repute to meet the future requirements of safe water and improved sanitation.

The NCDWSQ is to be positioned as an apex institute in the country in the Public Health Engineering sector. While each 'spoke' in the 'hub-and-spoke' model would have its own role and responsibilities, the key areas for engagement across the 'hub-and-spoke' model would include training and capacity building, academic programmes and education, research and innovation, and outreach and consultancy across the partner institutions to maintain a balanced approach and engagement with the State Water & Sanitation Departments/PHEDs. They would function with the combined support and facilitation from the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation and NCDWSQ, with perhaps common programmes between the institutions.

NCDWSQ is expected to partner with the KRCs, the Centres of Excellence and the Professor Chairs and work in the areas of training and capacity building, especially to take up capacity programmes in a cascading approach, education and academic programmes, research and innovation, and outreach and consulting. The Institute is expected to have vibrant interactions with State Water & Sanitation Departments/PHEDs through frequent capacity building trainings that would encourage them to innovate to meet the existing and emerging challenges.

It is to have a state-of-the-art laboratory for specialized water quality tests, a vertical focused on leveraging digital technology and serving as a technology bank, also equipped to evaluate technologies, etc. so that it can achieve global standing in WASH. The institute is also expected to develop excellence in the academic offerings in the Public Health Engineering discipline.
Keeping in view its expanded role, it can be developed on the pattern of reputed institutions such as IITs, national institutions offering in-service training, etc.

The ‘hub and spoke model’ is envisaged to work with strong institutional links with IIT Kharagpur and IIM Kolkata. NEERI, Nagpur, is also assisting in technical aspects of NCDWSQ as well as in the validation of technologies in the water and sanitation sector, and is supporting a ‘Technical Committee’ set up by DDWS for the technical evaluation of technologies concerning water and sanitation. The Ministry of Jal Shakti is also working with National Institute of Hydrology, Roorkee, and IIT, Roorkee, in various areas of water.

Key Resource Centres
KRCs are to take up capacity building programmes in a cascading approach. They can work in more than one State in capacity building, reorienting of different stakeholders, disseminating knowledge and information, documenting best practices, etc. to achieve the sectoral goal of rural drinking water supply. The capacity building will be at four levels to enable fine tuning of capacity building requirements. As on date, 104 KRCs are empanelled.

Centres of Excellence
The Centres of Excellence, housed in institutions having technical eminence, are expected to leverage their regional presence and existing technological expertise in the domain of water, sanitation and hygiene to support the PHED/ Water and Sanitation Departments in strengthening service delivery through local water utilities. There is a need for a Centre of Excellence in the Western part of the country, with specific focus on source sustainability and efficient water usage. Another Centre of Excellence can be set up in the Southern part of the country on surveillance and monitoring technology (e.g., sensors). These two Centres can achieve a fine-tuned and effective reach of technological services in collaboration with NCDWSQ.

Jal Jeevan Mission – Professor Chairs
There is a felt need for the engagement with eminent academic institutions working in the water and sanitation sector to draw their expertise in addressing the diverse social, managerial, research challenges. A committee has been constituted under the chairpersonship of the Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, and co-chairpersonship of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, to identify host institutions and areas of focus for setting up Jal Jeevan Mission-Professor Chairs. Five host institutions and corresponding areas of focus have been identified by the Committee.

The complete institutional structure of the ‘hub-and-spoke’ model of the NCDWSQ is expected to make significant improvements in service delivery by facilitating utility development, sustainability of drinking water sources, development of appropriate water treatment technology, promoting decentralized governance for water and sanitation services, deployment of IT and data science, etc.

The unprecedented investment made in the water, sanitation and hygiene sector by the Government of India has given a unique opportunity to India to achieve universal access to safely managed drinking water by 2024, six years ahead of the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goal target. It also ensures the sustainability of open defecation free villages and holistic cleanliness in villages with solid and liquid waste management. Efforts are ongoing, and with the added value of expert guidance and capacity strengthening, the spotlight is on India to deliver a revolution once again, this time for water.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Focus area</th>
<th>Host Institute (Professor Chair)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Utility development &amp; water economics</td>
<td>Indian Institute of Management, Bengaluru</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Sustainability of drinking water sources</td>
<td>Indian Institute of Technology, Jodhpur</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Water treatment technology</td>
<td>Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Decentralized governance for water and sanitation services</td>
<td>Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>IT and Data Science for service delivery</td>
<td>Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur</td>
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Learning through Exposure Visits - JJM implementation in Gujarat

- WASMO, Gujarat

Loksamvad

Loksamvad is a monthly magazine published by WASMO since year 2004. It covers the inspiring stories from field under various state and central government programmes being implemented for ensuring safe and adequate drinking water supply in Gujarat. Approximately 18,000 copies of loksamvad gets published every month and being circulated to 17,600 Gram Panchayats along with key stakeholder departments. JJM related articles are being published and helping sharing the best practices across state and inspiring PRIs and ISAs for replicating some of the examples.

Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) is launched in year 2019 with an aim to provide tap water connections to all rural households of the country by 2024. It is a decentralized, demand-driven and community-managed programme with the Gram Panchayat and/or its sub-committee, i.e., Pani Samiti being the owner implementers and managers. The mission envisons empowering Pani Samiti to function as 'Local Water Utility' that focuses on water supply service delivery.

Under JJM, the State of Gujarat has achieved access of tap connection to 85.7% of its rural population and committed itself to cover 100% households by the year 2022. Gujarat is implementing water supply schemes through decentralized community driven approach. WASMO has been successful in establishing 23,434 in-village water supply schemes while developing 17,255 village level Pani Samitis across the state. The Pani Samiti is a village level service institution consisting of 10 to 12 members of the village, oriented and motivated for management of in-village water supply facilities. These institutions are created and sustained through the Information, Education and Communication (IEC), community...
mobilization and capacity building activities undertaken by WASMO with the help of district level units and their Implementation Support Agencies (ISAs).

To achieve the coveted goal of strengthening community participation via empowering Pani Samitis, Government of Gujarat has taken one step ahead and organized series of exposure visits contributing towards capacity building of PRIs as well as of Pani Samitis. The strategic initiative provides an opportunity for experiential learning for Pani Samiti members. During such visits they get an opportunity to get first-hand experience of the infrastructure created by the government and also good work done by other Panchayats, learn from the challenges faced by the Panchayats in the process and how the challenges were overcome. The hands-on peer learning opportunity for both the host and the visiting participants are getting popular.

To bring the ‘sense of ownership’ and pride among the rural communities and to promote exchange of ideas and learnings within community contributing towards achieving one of the objectives of JJM; Government of Gujarat has launched exposure visits drive to cover 5,000 villages having around 70,000 Pani Samiti members led and guided by WASMO. The State is divided into six learning zones based on geographical and regional similarities. The Pani Samitis are identified for the exposure visits from each of the zone. The details of the zone wise Pani Samitis are as under:

The district officials are motivated to organize the exposure visits of their selected Pani Samitis within next two months. To accomplish the objective of exposure visits, zone wise key challenges were identified, and visits are planned so that Pani Samiti learn and share exchange ideas with each other to address those issues. Areas like decentralized village water management, water conservation, journey of water from source to point of use and so on.

Since the exposure visits are resource intensive, the districts are advised to ensure that exposure visits are properly planned and facilitated to achieve the learning outcomes. Keeping this in mind the districts have also planned to take the Pani Samitis to different dams and water treatment plants, pumping stations and headwork of Gujarat Water Supply and Sewerage Board. The objective behind entire exercise is to make the members of Pani Samiti aware about the significant infrastructure and institutional mechanism behind assuring source in their villages in drought prone State as Gujarat. It is also a means to make them appreciate water as a key resource for the life. Entire process chain from intake to transportation to filtration to distribution is explained as part of the exposure visit.

Till date around 6,276 members including 2,887 female members of 606 Pani samitis have visited at different decentralized water management villages, dams and water treatment plants. During these visits the dam in-charge provides information of dams and distributes the relevant informative documents to each member. The Pani samiti members ask questions regarding water life cycle, supply side drinking water management and other technical details. Apart from conservation and management of water resources, information regarding maintaining a clean environment and managing and processing of wastewater management in the village were also shared. Similarly, while visiting at water treatment plants, Pani Samitis were informed about the importance of surface water, chlorination process and how water gets treated before the distribution at village level. At the end of the visit a memento is distributed to all the Pani samitis members as a token of appreciation.

Exposure visit is widening the vision of the village level institution, especially to understand the big picture on water management, and visualize the role of the Pani Samitis as part of drinking water security. It is expected to foster the spirit and commitment to provide sustainable & equitable water supply to all ensuring ‘no one is left behind’ in the villages.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Name of Districts</th>
<th>No. of Pani Samitis for exposure visit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zone I</td>
<td>Vadodara, Chottaudepur, Mahisagar, Dahod, Narmada, Panchahal</td>
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<td>Zone II</td>
<td>Anand, Ahmedabad, Aravalli, Banaskantha, Patan Gandhinagar, Kheda, Mehsana, Sabarkantha</td>
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<td>Zone III</td>
<td>Rajkot, Morbi, Surendranagar, Jamnagar</td>
<td>575</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zone IV</td>
<td>Kutch</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zone V</td>
<td>Junagadh, Bhavnagar, Botad, Amreli, Porbandar, Gir Somnath, Devbhumi Dwarka</td>
<td>795</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zone VI</td>
<td>Surat, Bharuch, Valsad, Dang, Navsari, Tapi</td>
<td>855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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</table>
A month-long campaign to empower village communities

Arunachal Pradesh

- PHED, Arunachal Pradesh

Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh, Shri Pema Khandu virtually launched a month-long campaign for “empowerment of village community with handing over of in-village water supply assets named BESTOW 1.0” on 23rd August, 2021 to empower village communities under Jal Jeevan Mission which aims to provide safe and adequate drinking water on regular basis to all rural by 2024. He handed over, water supply assets under in-village scheme to Panchayat of Ganga village in Papum district to village water & sanitation committee (VWSC). Similarly, District Water & Sanitation Mission (DWSM) bestowed in-village water supply scheme to VWSCs in their respective districts. The launch was attended by PHED/ WS Minister and the Chief Secretary.

Jal Jeevan Mission is a flagship programme of a Union Government, which envisions provision of potable water supply to every rural household by 2024. However, Government of Arunachal Pradesh plans for saturation by 2023, which is a year ahead of the national target.

Source sustainability measures have to be addressed while developing the plan in any village. Water recharge and reuse through grey water management, water conservation, rainwater harvesting are few mandatory provisions under Har Ghar Jal programme. The mission stresses the need on engagement with the community while preparing the Village Action Plan (VAP), a five year document having components of drinking water sources management, water supply, greywater management and operation & maintenance. It is important to inform people about various components of the scheme through extensive IEC.

Out of total 5,457 villages in the State, 2,101 villages have are equipped with 100% household tap water connections. The Chief Minister while addressing the Village Water & Sanitation Committee members and District Water & Sanitation Mission officials explained the critical role VWSC plays in planning, implementation, management, operation and maintenance of water supply in the village. It is the members of this committee who ensure functional tap water connection to every household.
Shri Pema Khandu added, it is the responsibility of the VWSC to ensure that in every house gets a tap connection and each tap has water flowing from it on regular basis. The State Government has launched Arunachal Jal Sankalp scheme supporting the Har Ghar Jal programme of the Centre with its own funds. He expressed concern as water scarcity was reported in few pockets of the State like Longding. It is very important to save the forest cover as deforestation and degradation of natural environment impact quantity of rainfall. He emphasized the need for protection and preservation of all water sources as over extraction without proper recharge will dry up the source in times to come which will be detrimental for our future generation. The State is working on a robust catchment area policy which will protect the area around water sources.

Under the BESTOW campaign the department will ensure formation of VWSCs in the remaining villages. As mandated under JJM, separate bank accounts will be opened for VWSC and the committee takes on the responsibility of collection of user charges from the community to ensure sustainability of the programme. VWSC leads community engagement as Panchayats prepares to draft the Village Action Plan. A 5-member surveillance committee will be set up which is responsible for testing the quality of water supplied at frequent intervals. Training will be provided to VWSC and surveillance committee members on their roles and responsibilities and how to carry out tests.

Implementing Support Agencies are engaged in the State to extend support to VWSCs in creating awareness about Har Ghar Jal programme and mobilize the community. They ensure participation of all people in the Gram Sabha so that ‘no person is left out’. Door-to-door communication helps in spreading the message to each one no matter where they reside.

Test Kits procured for the surveillance committee will be handed over to the Panchayats, training will be imparted to the villagers as mason, plumber, fitter, pump operator and motor mechanic. The details pertaining to water supply infrastructure will be uploaded on IMIS. Once the water supply infrastructure is created and all the required provisions are followed, the asset will be handed over to the Panchayats for operation and maintenance. Sign boards are installed giving details of water supply scheme implemented in the Panchayat including type of scheme, area covered, number of people reached, time of initiation and completion, etc. Finally, the Panchayat will be awarded certificate certifying achievement of 100% tap water coverage.

The aim of BESTOW campaign is to ensure that all water supply infrastructure is handed over to Panchayat at a public function in the presence of Member of Parliament, MLAs., and senior government officials. The Memorandum of Understanding as assets are handed of to the community for further operation & maintenance will be between officials of Public Health Engineering & Water Supply Department (PHED) and Chairperson of VWSC.

The Executive Engineer, PHE&WS Department, as the Member Secretary, District Water and Sanitation Mission (DWSM) are coordinating the programme in the district and they are responsible within the respective divisions for their progress as planned in each week.
Centralised water information & management system in Rajasthan

- PHED, Rajasthan

With relative short spells of monsoon and scanty rainfall, Rajasthan is the most water-deficient State in the country. The situation worsens in summer. The State has seen several schemes in the past for water supply at the community level. In Jal Jeevan Mission, announced on 15th August, 2019, the State government saw a golden opportunity for providing clean piped water supply to every rural household and improving their ‘ease of living’, especially for women and girls.

Under Jal Jeevan Mission, the Government of Rajasthan is committed to providing tap water to all its rural households in adequate quantity, of prescribed quality and on a regular basis.

To strengthen water supply management, PHED, Rajasthan, has established a Centralized Information Management System named 'Jal Dhara Command Centre'. The Command Centre or 'Centralized Water Information Hub' monitors water supply operations across the state through multiple Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) sites, reverse osmosis units, de-fluoridation units and solar borewell sites. The Command Centre receives data from the remote SCADA system, RO plants, solar DFU plants, and solar borewells, which is accessed through its web portal and mobile application using login and password. The field officers under PHED Rajasthan use WIMS Portal Mobile App with unique Single Sign On (SSO) id for monitoring water supply status.

Jal Dhara Command Centre, therefore, helps in real time tracking of water transmission, water treatment and water distribution up to Local Control Centre (LCC). This will improve accountability in water production and distribution system as well as real-time monitoring of RO, DFU and solar borewells, thus ensuring safe and clean drinking water to people.

Based on the data received, the Command Centre generates and sends alerts about water leakage, non-availability or interruption in water supply, water quality issues, etc., on its mobile app and web portal helping the authorities concerned in quick identification and resolution of water supply concern. The State-wide PHED assets are also being integrated in Enterprise Asset Management (EAM) Module. This will increase efficiency in their tracking, monitoring and maintenance.

Jal Dhara Command Centre is helping in establishing an effective and efficient water supply administrative support system, thereby facilitating uniform distribution of water of prescribed quality and in adequate quantity to every locality in the state of Rajasthan. The State’s Water Information Management System (WIMS Portal) and forecasting (Smart Analytics) will thus help achieve demand management effectively.

With these measures, Rajasthan is set to mitigate its water woes and improve the quality of life of people, more so for women and girls by reducing their drudgery. As on date, 21.17 lakh (20.9%) rural households in Rajasthan are getting tap water supply in their homes.
When UNOPS conducted a Community Leave No One Behind (CLNOB) mapping exercise for drinking water supply, grey water management and sanitation practices in Itwan village of Chitrakoot district in Uttar Pradesh, women realized that walking almost 3.5 km to-and-fro consumed their 3-4 hours a day and much more of their energy. In hope for a better future for themselves, their daughters, daughters-in-law and granddaughters, women enrolled themselves in the Village Water & Sanitation Committee (VWSC), promising to contribute in every possible way to support Jal Jeevan Mission.

This is common to all villages in Uttar Pradesh and not just Itwan village that UNOPS intends to make a ‘Model Village’ for community ownership and management of the water supply infrastructure provided under J JM. The community, especially women, are well informed on water issues and eager to take part in water quality and sustainability activities in their village, including greywater management. They will not only ensure that tap water supply reaches their home, they are eager to make their village more green and clean. In its CLNOB approach, UNOPS will ensure that no one is left behind in the village and there is 100% supply coverage. Such a model village can be a source of the motivation for others.

Jal Jeevan Mission aims to provide functional household tap connection to every rural household of the country by 2024. This precedes by six years the United Nation’s Sustainable Development Goal-6, target 1 of universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all. Community Leave No One Behind (CLNOB) is an empowering approach in which communities are facilitated to analyse who in the community is left out or not reached, so as to ensure ‘Har Ghar Jal’.

Participatory mapping exercises inspire community action

- Madhuri Shukla, Consultant, UNOPS

Water resource mapping exercise in Chitrakoot village of Uttrar Pradesh
To support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management, United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) has introduced CLNOB mapping in 11 districts of Bundelkhand, Vindhya and Prayagraj regions of Uttar Pradesh.

CLNOB is a new participatory approach to identify both challenges and solutions in community’s drinking water supply sources, accessibility challenges, water quality, greywater management issues or any other challenges faced. CLNOB provides opportunity to community in analysing its current situation of water supply and initiate collective action at a village level.

Mapping is done cluster-wise to ensure all households are mapped and those left out are identified as ‘Leave No One Behind’ categories. The idea is to inspire and motivate people through participatory methods, such as a discussion, on relevant topics like day-to-day water needs, how best to manage them, identifying households left out and why are they are left behind, possible solutions to address the root causes and ensuring accountability for LNOB.

The activity is done for the people, by the people and concluded with the people. UNOPS facilitates the process and triggers the community discussion about water and related issues. The discussions are not limited to drinking water supply. It covers all dimensions of in-village water use and management, including greywater management.

For instance, after mapping the greywater situation in Etura Bavani village, Jalaun district, the community realized greywater from the village drains directly into the village pond it and also accumulates in a few stretches that not only looked filthy but also creating public health concern. The alarmed community took corrective measures.

Jal Jeevan Mission is a community-led programme, where community plays the key role in planning, implementation, operation, maintenance and source sustainability. The mission emphasizes on functionality and service delivery for a long term. This implies that the mission will achieve its goal only if the tap water connections are viable for at least next 30-40 years.

CLNOB inspires, fills passion and pride and conveys a clear message about community empowerment in the mission. It has an emotional appeal for all stakeholders. The motto is clear, value this prime resource, use it judiciously, preserve it and pass down it down for the generations to come.
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A multi-disciplinary team from National Jal Jeevan Mission conducted a day-long workshop in Srinagar on 9th September, 2021. The workshop was organised by UT of J&K. Shri Bharat Lal, AS & MD, National Jal Jeevan Mission, spoke on the mission’s vision, and strategy for 100% saturation in J&K by September, 2022 as the UT has fixed this ambitious deadline.

A team of experts from NJJM took sessions on quality control and the importance of community mobilization in planning, implementation, monitoring and operation & maintenance. The framework of Water Quality Monitoring and Surveillance (WQMS) of assured tap water supply was also explained to the participants. Another session focused on data management and analysis, third party inspection, and the role of NGOs/ CBOs in the programme implementation support at the district and Panchayat levels and in water quality surveillance.

Another one-day workshop on JJM implementation was organised by the Department of Jal Shakti, J&K, at the Convention Centre, Jammu. Dr Sayed Rashid Shah, Mission Director in J&K spoke about JJM implementation in the UT.

Speaking at the workshop, the Chief Secretary, J&K, Shri Arun Kumar Mehta, stressed transparency and accountability for community trust. He added Jal Jeevan Mission shows the government’s commitment to provide basic amenities to its people. He directed the executing departments to focus on single-village schemes as they are cost effective and easy to maintain.

AS & MD, National Jal Jeevan Mission, spoke on the key role of community and Pani Samiti in the planning, implementation, management, O&M

Piped water supply in J&K
of in-village water supply system. He added, “every Gram Panchayat must develop a Village Action Plan (VAP) for the next 5-years covering four important components of the programme — assured drinking water supply, drinking water source strengthening, greywater treatment and reuse, and in-village water supply operation & maintenance.

Shri Pradeep Singh, Director NJJM, presented the progress made by J&amp;K under the programme. He said that people at the helm need to understand that Pani Samitis have to work as ‘water utility’ in the times to come. This VWSCs have to ensure tap water reaches every household regularly and water user charges are collected timely and deposited in the bank account to support recurring expenses in O&amp;M of in-village water supply infrastructure.

Shri Singh informed the participants about the dashboard that give information up to the village level. The dashboard can be used to check and monitor village-level water supply quantity, quality and regularity. Issues of supply pressure, breakdown, leakage or irregular water supply can be reported by the community at grievance redressal forum.

Dr. Vivek Chauhan, NJJM, took a session on WQMS framework. Shri Manish Wasuja discussed WASH services. Dr. Apoorva Oza gave a detailed presentation on decentralized planning, community mobilization and preparation of Village Action Plan (VAP).

J&amp;K plans to provide piped water supply to every rural household by September 2022.

Out of 18.35 lakh rural household in the UT, presently, 10.31 lakh or 56.19% have access to tap water. At the time of launch of Jal Jeevan Mission on 15th August, 2019, only 5.75 lakh (31.36%) rural household had tap water connectivity.

In the last two years, 4.56 lakh rural households (24.83%) have received tap water connections. Srinagar and Ganderbal districts have already become ‘Har Ghar Jal’ districts. The UT’s all 22,422 schools and 23,926 anganwadi centres in the UT also have piped water supply. A total of 4,784 panchayats (70%) have tap water supply.
Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) has found big fan following from unlikely quarters. Jal Jeevan Samvad, the monthly newsletter has received a large number of messages from young men and women of the National Cadet Corps, Karnataka and Goa Directorate, appreciating the different dimensions of Jal Jeevan Mission and its impact on people in rural areas.

While some cadets touched upon the programme’s impact on the life of rural women, women’s role in every aspect of in-village water supply infrastructure planning and implementation, emphasis on collective approach and self-reliance, others emphasised need for reforms in water use practices and the resource conservation to ensure its universal coverage and sustainability. Others appreciated the programme design and community participation. But more than anything, the cadets’ awareness of the water issues in India is noteworthy. Many of them appreciated the programme’s direct impact on girls’ education, rural healthcare, rural awakening about water quality, safety and conservation, etc.

Comparing her childhood experiences in rural Barmer with developments following JJM implementation, cadet Srinidhi reminisces, 'to us water is more precious than gold. We toiled hard for it. Women would walk 7-8 km every day with the headload of 4-5 water pitchers. It caused them immense physical discomfort; forced young girls out of school as they would fill for their mothers in managing the fundamental necessities of families. Our water woes caused women illiteracy. Now that I see the number of water connections go up every day, far fewer women go out for water, most are at home and girls can study.'

Writing about water issues of Rajasthan, Cadet Manya Singh and several others delve on JJM’s emphasis on groundwater conservation as it is the mainstay of drinking water supply in many parts of the
country. She appreciates JJM for raising community awareness and sensitising people on conservation of water and water harvesting structures, traditional water sources and integrating them in their Village Action Plan.

Cadet Sgt R Kavana appreciates the central role of village women in the works planning and implementation and the push for safe water in quality-affected areas. In his communication, he notes supply coverage to 26.3% of rural households since 15 August, 2019, despite lockdowns, difficulties and restrictions wrought by Covid-19 pandemic and the lockdowns.

Cadets Pranshu Kumar Soti and Pranav Sharma have talked about the need for better irrigation practices and minimal use of groundwater in farming, restrictions on individual household borewells, push for water harvesting and conservation measures for every village as well as plantation on government land and around water bodies for water & soil conservation.

Cadets Amisha Mythri Raju and Kukkeshree Gowda appreciate water quality testing and monitoring labs at block and district level and the citizens access to their services, IEC activities in raising community awareness about water quality and safety, and introduction of the Field-Testing Kits. Amisha says, water quality tests with FTKs provides a platform for community participation. Community (Pani Samiti/ VWSC) capacity building in water quality testing and monitoring will ensure they consume only potable water. This, they say, will check water-borne diseases in rural India.

Several cadets commended potable tap water supply in schools, ashramshalas, anganwadi centres across over 10 States (Andhra Pradesh, A&N Islands, Goa, Gujarat, Kerala, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Telangana) while several other States have made good progress and are on their way to achieve their target.

Some of the cadets had accessed the JJM dashboard for information on the programme implementation. They appreciated the ease of access to village-level information from household and institutional tap connections available, the quantity of water supplied, the status of water quality to names of the go-to-persons for in-village water quality check, O&M team, skilled human resources and the status of water conservation/ rainwater harvesting. The cadets were all praise for the use of information for this kind of transparency and public accountability.
S shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Union Minister, Jal Shakti and Shri G. Kishan Reddy, Union Minister for Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), jointly inaugurated multiple water projects under Jal Jeevan Mission across Arunachal Pradesh. The projects include an integrated drinking water project that aims to provide safe drinking water in 10 habitations under Chongkham block of Namsai District, the only Aspirational district of Arunachal Pradesh, with 70 LPCD of treated drinking water. Apart from this Union Ministers also reviewed the progress of tap water connections provided under Jal Jeevan Mission, that covered 42 villages and 45 habitations, 3,793 households, 44 nos. of schools and 103 nos of Anganwadi centres including all community halls and other institutions.

The Union Minister lauded the efforts of Government of Arunachal Pradesh for progress of women under JJM and complimented leadership of the State’s Chief Minister who has been relentlessly working for the development and welfare of the State of Arunachal Pradesh. The dream of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to provide pure water from the tap to every village and every household is being fulfilled by the Arunachal Pradesh government.

As on date 1.12 lakh (51%) Households out of total 2.2 lakh rural households are getting tap water supply in their homes. Since start of Jal Jeevan Mission, 89,970 (41%) rural households are provided tap water connections. The State plans for 100% saturation by 2023.
Union Minister of Jal Shakti chairs Conference of PHED Ministers of NE States on JJM

Union Minister Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat chairs a day-long conference of Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) Ministers of North-Eastern States on Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM). Assam Administrative Staff College, Guwahati hosted the conference which was attended by Ministers-in-charge of Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) from the eight North-Eastern States along with its senior officers in the forenoon session, issues related to States were discussed in detail.

Additional Secretary & Mission Director – Jal Jeevan Mission, Shri Bharat Lal congratulated North Eastern states on the largescale work undertaken by each one while overcoming various challenges encountered be it difficult terrain or high mountainous climate. He stressed on the importance of listening to concerns of the community as water supply infrastructure is being planned. He said, “it cannot be an engineer driven programme. Community is supreme and bottom-up approach has to be adopted in mapping, planning, implementation and towards its operation & maintenance. Focus has to be on single-village scheme as it is cost effective, quick to implement and easy and cheap to maintain in the long-run.”

He added that a huge capacity development programme has been started under the Mission. An apex training institute is being set up at Kolkata which will soon be inaugurated. In addition to it, two Centre of Excellence are being started one at IIT Chennai on technology and second one at IIT Gandhinagar on public utility. Five Professor Chairs will be set up at IIT Guwahati on water and...
sanitation technology, IIT Kanpur for data science, IIT Jodhpur on water source sustainability, TISS Mumbai on community engagement and IIM Bangalore for service delivery and utility. 104 Key Resource Centres have been engaged by the Mission to impart training and build capacities of the stakeholders involved in implementation of the programme.

Senior officials from NJJM, made presentation on progress made so far, digital vision and State specific issues followed by presentation from each state highlighting their achievements, concerns and way forward. Following CoVid-19 protocol the physical presence at the conference was limited to senior officials but to ensure larger number of people gain from the deliberation, it was live streamed to all stakeholders spread across 116 districts, thereby reaching all the Chief/ Executive/ Assistant/ Junior Engineers of PHED and state officials.

The afternoon session was chaired by the Union Minister of Jal Shakti. Chief Minister of Assam and all eight Ministers of Rural Water Supply of NE States participated and discussed various issues to take JJM forward. Secretary, DDWS complimented the NE States for the progress made and urged for involving the local community in water quality surveillance. AS&MD made a detailed presentation on the progress of JJM and the road ahead urging all States’ ministers to monitor the progress of works in their States.

Jal Jeevan Mission is a flagship programme of Union Government being implemented by Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation (DDWS), Ministry of Jal Shakti in partnership with States, to make provision of tap water connection to every rural household across country by 2024. The fund sharing pattern between Centre and State is 90:10 for NE States.

With Union Government’s undivided focus on the development of North-Eastern region of the country and to accelerate its all-round development, during financial year 2021-22, Rs. 9,262 Crore has been allocated as Central grant for NE States under Jal Jeevan Mission. The enhanced allocation as well as release of funds at this challenging time to provide tap water connections to rural homes in NE States, will boost the economy of the region.

The focus of the conference is developing strategy, review the progress made so far, and look at ways to improve the pace of implementation to achieve the goal as per the saturation dates planned by each states based on the work in hand. Manipur, Meghalaya and Sikkim aim to become Har Ghar Jal State by 2022, followed by Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura by 2023. In the conference, the Chief Minister of Assam urged his officers to make the State ‘Har Ghar Jal’ by 2023.

National Jal Jeevan Mission in partnership with Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser, Government of India, has organised a consultative meeting with five Eastern Zone States (Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha and West Bengal) to develop innovative technological solutions to address field implementation issues under the mission.

AS&MD, NJJM presented the keynote address on Jal Jeevan Mission at 6th JP Morgan India investor virtual summit followed by Q&A moderated by Mr. Sanjay Mookim, Strategist, Head of India equity research. Additional Secretary and Mission Director shared about JJM approach, components, use of technology, outputs & outcomes, etc.
A one-day national workshop on implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) was organized for Engineer-in-Chief (E-in-C)/Chief Engineers (CEs) of States/UTs on 24th September, 2021 at Garvi Gujarat, New Delhi. At State-level, E-in-C and CEs, as the senior most and experienced engineers are responsible for the overall planning and implementation of rural water supply schemes. They play a huge role in implementing public policy and adopting a ‘utility’ approach for the implementation of JJM. A workshop was customized for them with several key technical sessions to re-orient them to function as ‘public health engineers’ focusing on ‘service delivery’. About 100 Engineers-in-Chief/ CEs participated in the national conference on implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission held at Delhi. The workshop was also live-streamed on YouTube so that SEs/ EEs/ JE and other officers could also attend and learn from the informative sessions.

In his inaugural address, the Secretary, DDWS emphasized on the transformative nature of JJM, terming it a once in a lifetime opportunity to ensure assured water supply on a long-term basis. He urged for implementation of mission in its true spirit by empowering local communities.

Setting the agenda for the workshop for assured service delivery and way forward, AS & MD, NJJM reminded that in the current era of transparency, people are empowered with the use of technology. Digital tools must be used to resolve grievances in a way that trust in the system is built. This is one way to assure long-term service delivery. The water supply systems being established must serve the communities for the next 30-40 years in adequate quantity of prescribed quality with adequate pressure on a regular and long-term basis. Ensuring assured service delivery and empowering GPs/ VWSCs is the soul of JJM, for which States/ UTs to work harder to build their capacities.

Nicolas Osbert, Chief (WASH), UNICEF provided a global perspective on WASH, especially JJM in the context of UN’s SDGs. He appreciated the Union Government’s commitment to prioritize the provision of clean drinking water supply and safe sanitation services to all.

Pradeep Singh, Director, NJJM shared about role of digital governance under JJM for planning, implementation and monitoring, and development of local water utility. He presented different digital platforms currently available to ensure service delivery. A. Muralidharan, Dy. Advisor, NJJM shared planning and design norms for assured water supply to every rural HH. The central role that public health engineers play in design development process, design approach for retrofitting, GIS mapping, design period, material selection, etc.

Manoj Sahoo, Director, NJJM shared about the significance of Village Action Plan (VAP) and dovetailing of resources at village level for drinking water security. Role of local village community as well as 15th Finance Commission tied-grant for water & sanitation was explained.

Yugal Joshi, Director, NJJM shared ways to leverage IEC tools for awareness on water quality and ‘Har Ghar Jal’ to make it people’s movement. He stressed on conducting mass awareness, outdoor activity and community participation to ensure overall success.

Manish Wasuja, WASH specialist, UNICEF India sensitized on linkage between WASH services and Public Health. The risk factor of many water-borne diseases, WASH and diarrhea, WASH and nutrition, the F diagram, components of VAP - its process overview, SBCC strategy, etc. Liby Johnson, Executive Director, Gram Vikas Trust, Odisha sensitized participants on the role of GPS/ VWSCs/ Pani Samitis/ ISAs to ensure regular & long-term water supply to rural households. He focused on inclusiveness, ownership & participation as the factors contributing to sustainable community management.

Ambarish Karunanithi and Dr. Vivek Chauhan, shared about WQMS and laboratory status, respectively. The workshop was attended by 103 participants including 62 Engineer-in-Chief/ Chief Engineers, in-charge of rural water supply from 31 States/ UTs. NJM is laying big emphasis on training and orientation of PHED official to accomplish the goal of Jal Jeevan Mission.
A 3-day series of conferences was organised by the National Jal Jeevan Mission, Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation (DDWS), Ministry of Jal Shakti in association with UNICEF, for empanelled Key Resource Centres (KRCs) on September 27, September 29, and October 1, 2021 respectively. The conferences were chaired by the Secretary, DDWS.

On 27th September, the conference was organised for L1 & L2, on 29th September L2 and on 1st October, 2021 L1 KRCs. In his inaugural address, Shri Pankaj Kumar, Secretary, DDWS spoke about how Jal Jeevan Mission is becoming a 'Jan Andolan' and to be a part of it, an cadre of mason, electrician, plumbers, pump operators, etc has to be available at a moment’s notice in every village, for every household.

Additional Secretary & Mission Director National Jal Jeevan Mission, Shri Bharat Lal, set the agenda with an inspiring message for responsible leadership for service delivery saying that it is time to change the mindset for water and piped water supply must be complemented with sustainability, grey water treatment & reuse, & regular O&M. In his key note address, Shri Bharat Lal emphasized on responsive and responsible leadership at grass-root level for assured service delivery. He stressed that KRCs are critical to achieving JJM’s vision of ensuring clean drinking water through tap in every household. To meet people’s expectations and rising aspirations, PHED has to act fast and use a service delivery approach, thereby improving quality of life and enhancing ‘Ease of Living’. Tap water supply is a basic need and water supply by train/tankers must be a thing of past.

Service providers need to embrace same technology as users, be responsive and sensitive to people’s requirement, capture their problem, leverage digital tools to set up systems, etc. building trust in public health engineering & KRCs play a crucial role in developing this, he exhorted during the conference. Further he added, PHED has to serve
over 1.3 bn people through approx.
20 Crore delivery points/ customers
in our country, viz. households, public
institutions, etc. India is setting an
eexample for the world.

Several thematic experts were also
present during the national
conference. In her opening remarks
Dr Yasmin Haque, Country Represen-
tative, UNICEF India, spoke of the
global importance of Jal Jeevan
Mission in providing 700 million rural
Indians with piped water - a signifi-
cant effort towards the SDGs. Nicolas
Osbert, Chief (WASH), UNICEF India
provided a global perspective on
WASH, especially Jal Jeevan Mission,
in the context of UN’s SDGs. He
appreciated the Union Government’s
commitment to prioritize the
 provision of clean drinking water
supply and safe sanitation services to
all.

Later on, P. Viswakannan, Director,
NJJM apprised the participants about
the scope and features of JJM training
portal for capacity building which will
enable KRCs (trainers) to float their
training calendars and participants
(trainees) to register for programmes
as per their needs. The #JJM training
portal is a single platform for trainees,
trainers and NJJM to comprehend
demand and supply, facilitate the
intermediate processes including
registration, alerts, nomination,
attendance of trainees in a course,
feedback, etc.- he said during the
conference.

In addition to this, Liby Johnson,
Executive Director, Gram Vikas Trust
spoke about the roles of GPs/VWSCs/
Pani Samitis/ ISAs in ensuring long-
term water supply in villages. He
encouraged participants to focus on
community participation &
ownership for water supply systems
to serve full design period.

Muralidharan, Dy. Advisor, NJJM
presented the planning and design
norms for assured water supply to
every rural household. The transition
of civil engineers to function as
public health engineers enabling GPs
becoming a public utility is at the core
of the mission. He discussed the
design development process, design
approach for retrofitting, GIS
mapping, design period, material
selection, etc., essential for the
implementation of the mission at
speed and scale.

Manoj Kumar Sahoo, Director, NJJM
apprised the participants about the
significance of Village Action Plan
(VAP) and dovetailing resources at
village level for water security.
Pradeep Singh, Director, NJJM shared
about role of digital governance
under JJM for planning, implementa-
tion and monitoring, and develop-
ment of local water utility. He
presented different digital platforms
currently available to ensure service
delivery.

Arunugam Kalimuthu, Programme
Director, WASH institute reiterated
JJM’s importance on water quality
monitoring & surveillance to ensure
regular quality drinking water supply
to each rural home. 02% of total
allocation to States is earmarked for
this purpose.

Yugal Joshi, Director, NJJM apprised
participants on leveraging different
IEC tools to make JJM a Jan Andolan.
He stressed on conducting mass
awareness and community sensitiza-
tion on judicious use of water,
community contribution & owners-
ship, etc.

D. S. Dhapola, Senior consultant,
NJJM enlightened participants about
designing drinking water supply
systems which are sustainable on a
long-term basis and reiterated JJM’s
approach of community participation
and contribution, while planning,
designing, implementing and O&M.

The objective of the conferences was
to urge and motivate the KRCs to
work with a responsible and responsi-
ble approach in holistically
addressing the on-ground challenges
and capacitating the stakeholders so
as to transform the drinking water
sector and shift focus from mere
‘infrastructure creation’ to ‘assured
service delivery’ approach.

Key Resource Centres are expected to
play an important role in supporting
the implementation of JJM by
 capacitating all the key stakeholders,
including senior policy makers, state
and district officials, engineers,
laboratory personnel, local body
representatives, members of
Panchayati Raj Institutions and
Village Water & Sanitation
Committees, Gram Panchayat
Officials, representatives of
Implementation Support Agencies.

In addition to above, other important
works of KRCs is to develop design-
ing, and implementing capacity
building programmes to help achieve
the goals of JJM, in the areas of
programme management, Informa-
tion, Education and Communication
(IEC) strategies, community mobiliza-
tion, capacity building and participa-
tory training programme, identifying
successful models for replication,
documenting best practices, carry
out social audit, facilitate in organiz-
ing workshops, conferences, etc.

JJM is based on a community
approach and relies on extensive
Information, Education and
Communication (IEC) and Capacity
Building as key components of the
mission. JJM aims to create a ‘jan
andolan’ for water, thereby making it
everyone’s priority.
Minister of State, Jal Shakti reviews JJM works in States

Shri Prahlad Singh Patel, Minister of State, Jal Shakti visited Budpura village in Jhansi on 11th September, 2021 where Jal Jeevan Mission work is under progress. At Matheela dam a raw water intake well is being constructed at a cost of Rs 216.95 Crore. Raw water is generally considered unsafe for direct consumption as it may contain contaminants.

An intake well is a system developed in the water body to pump water into a water tank or water treatment plant. This treated water is then supplied to various houses. 14 km raw water rising main has been laid. The capacity of the intake well is 28 mld. 50% of the construction work has been completed. The timeline for completing the project was December 2022 but efforts are being made to expedite the work and complete the project by December 2021.

The project underway will provide potable drinking water in 28,504 household thereby benefitting 1,65,472 people. In Jhansi presently 10 water supply projects are under different stages of construction. Through it, government will ensure tap water connections to 2,09,675 households catering to 11 lakh population. Union Minister of State, Shri Prahlad Singh Patel and Chief Minister of Assam jointly reviewed the progress of Jal Jeevan Mission at Amingaon, Kamroop, Guwahati on September, 23th 2021.
For the smart measurement and monitoring of water supply system under the Jal Jeevan mission, IoT based sensor pilots installed in 10 villages of Baghpat Districts of Uttar Pradesh. Joint team of NJJM and MEITY visited Bopura village of Baghpat District to review the deployment.

In Bopura Village (Binauli Block), Total 4 Flowmeters installed, each at source, service reservoir, branch to habitation and tail end consumer in the village. Along with flowmeters, 4 water quality sensors viz. pH, TDS, chlorine, and nitrate and 1 pressure sensor at consumer level have been installed. The live readings from the sensors will be monitored through C-DAC dashboard.

IoT architecture deployment comprises sensors (flowmeter and quality) connected through cables to 3 gateway device, sensors data transmitted from gateway device to cloud using GSM network (2G) and displayed to CDAC- Dashboard. Bopura village is ‘Har Ghar Jal’ with 100% FHTCs.

In another initiative, with smart monitoring system for water service delivery installed in 10 villages of Baghpat District under ICT-Grand challenge.

In Bopura Village (Binauli Block), of Baaghpat District the sensor bases smart monitoring system was deployed. The village has population of 2,297 in 298 households. The tap connection has been provided to all the families in the villages. Village has one schools and 3 anganwadis which are also provided with taps water supply. As power availability is not the issue the data is being transmitted in every 3 minutes. In case network is not available the data is stored locally and transmitted whenever connection is available. The device can store data for 30 days.
A multidisciplinary team of 8 members from the National Jal Jeevan Mission visited the State of Jharkhand during 06-09 September, 2021. The team visited 40 villages in the four districts of Jharkhand, viz. Ranchi, Khunti, Hazaribagh and Dhanbad, to understand the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission, key issues and challenges, suggest measures to speed up work, and document good practices.

During the visit, the team interacted with the SWSM/DWSM officials, members of Gram Panchayat, VWSC and local community. Jharkhand State has appointed 8 Third Party Inspection Agencies (TPIAs) who are responsible only for material inspection at manufacturing and project site. Currently, there is no practice of construction quality inspection and measurement of executed work at project site. It was advised to the State to plan & appoint more TPIAs and tag them with each project site for inspection and quality control of ongoing work at project site.

Also, the State was suggested to work towards the skill development of village functionaries such as plumbers, electricians, fitters, pump operators, masons, 5 women for FTK testing on priority basis. Team was informed that as per new O&M policy, contractor must deploy local resources and train them during ongoing construction activities before their term ends, which is a welcome move.

To assist the UT of Jammu & Kashmir, a multi-disciplinary team of National Jal Jeevan Mission visited 16 villages in 6 districts from 7th September-11th September, 2021 to review the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission and to attend the Conference of Engineers scheduled on 9th September, 2021.

The team visited Anantnag (Khiram Kasuard & Athwatoor villages), Bandipura (Zoni Tora Asham, Chittay Banday, Guglidiquzar & Chontimulla villages), Pulwama (Nehama, Sather Quazijund & Bellow Dargond villages), Kulgam (Khaloora & Arigatnoo villages), Ganderbal (Nunner & Urpash villages) and Baramula (Goom Ahmedpur, Boncheckal Mapora & Bedarkot villages). The NJJM Team interacted with officials & Gram Panchayat/Pani Samiti members of these villages.

The visiting team observed that villagers are willing to contribute towards CAPEX and O&M charges. To ensure long-term water supply system, the DPRs to be revised in two weeks after a due discussion with the local village community. The team advised the State officials to adapt geo tagging of existing and proposed infrastructure to be done on JJM-IMIS.

NJJM team suggested the State officials to promote public awareness and participation, and to achieve that a proper IEC plan is to be devised and implemented by the UT. The visiting team suggested measures for a stringent plan for Water Quality Monitoring and surveillance.

It was advised to UT officials to start planning of sensor based IoT system in 'Har Ghar Jal' villages immediately.
Jal Jeevan Mission in News

Glimpses from the field

Madhya Pradesh
Engaging communities through water resource mapping exercises

Uttar Pradesh
Training 5 women in every village on water quality testing using FTKs

Rajasthan
Conducting village level trainings for the VWSC/ Pani Samiti members

Nagaland
Organizing skill development sessions to create a pool of trained human resource

Free flowing

Aditi Pradhan finds in Shekhawat a minister who keeps both oats in the water

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Nagaland
Organizing skill development sessions to create a pool of trained human resource
Women are always at the centre of our PM Narendra Modi ji’s Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas philosophy and it’s wonderful to see how Har Ghar Jal too has been able to empower them as not just beneficiaries but also to spearhead rural transformation.

Gajendra Singh Sekhawat
Union Minister, Jal Shakti

From the extract of an article published in News18