

MOST IMMEDIATE

No. WQ-11021/1/2020-WQ-DDWS – part(1)
Government of India
Ministry of Jal Shakti
Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation
National Jal Jeevan Mission
4th Floor, Pt. Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan,

New Delhi – 110003

Dated the 15 September, 2020

To,

Addl. Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary/ Secretary
In-charge Rural Water Supply/ PHE Department,
All States/ UTs

Subject: Opening up of water quality testing facilities for general public-regarding

Madam/Sir,

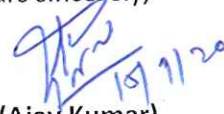
The Jal Jeevan Mission aims at providing Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) by 2024 to every rural household to provide drinking water in adequate quantity (minimum 55 lpcd) of prescribed quality (BIS:10500) on regular basis. Water Quality Monitoring and Surveillance (WQM&S) has been accorded highest priority under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM).

2. Water testing is important for monitoring the operation of water supply, verification of safety of drinking water, investigation of disease outbreaks and preventive measures. At grassroots, water quality is usually ascertained only by colour, odour and taste of the water, irrespective of the fact that the presence of most of the chemical contaminants does not exhibit any change in terms of color, odour or taste in comparison to potable water. For creating awareness among communities about the kind of water they are consuming, there should be a mechanism for testing of drinking water samples collected by general public.

3. As per JJM operational guidelines "Supply of prescribed quality of water is crucial factor which decides functionality of household tap connections. For ensuring this, water quality testing laboratories established under erstwhile ARWSP, NRDWP and now JJM will also make provision for getting water samples collected by general public tested at nominal rate that may be fixed by the department. Wide publicity about this be given so that public gets to know about this initiative." (para 10.0 at page 62)

4. In view of this, it is advised to issue necessary notification/circular/order for opening up of water quality testing facilities to general public for drinking water testing sample collected by general public at all laboratories of the State at nominal rates under intimation to this office.

Yours sincerely,


(Ajay Kumar)
Director (WQ)

Copy to: Engineer-in-Chief/ Chief Engineer, Rural Water Supply/ PHE Department, All States/ UTs for information and necessary action.