

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4351
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.03.2020**

Purity of Water

†4351. **SHRI GOPAL JEE THAKUR:**

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any concrete steps to ensure the purity of drinking water;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether proper conservation of various sources of drinking water is not being done; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI
(SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA)**

(a) & (b) Government of India, in partnership with States, has launched Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), which aims at providing drinking water of prescribed quality at service level of 55 litre per capita per day (lpcd) to every rural household through Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) by 2024 with an outlay of Rs. 3.60 lakh Crore out of which central share is Rs. 2.08 lakh Crore.

Under JJM, States have been advised to accord priority to quality-affected habitations so that people get potable water. Further, while allocating fund among States/ UTs under JJM, 10% weightage is given to proportion of population residing in water quality affected areas. Also, Government of India is implementing National Water Quality Sub-Mission to provide safe drinking water to about 27,544 Arsenic and Fluoride affected habitations and as on 17.03.2020, Rs.3,940.34 Crore has been released to these affected habitations.

Further, under Water Quality Monitoring & Surveillance (WQMS) component of JJM, States have been advised to strengthen water quality testing laboratories set up at various levels and also to provide field test kits for surveillance of water quality by communities.

(c) & (d) Water being State subject, powers to plan, design, approve and implement rural water supply projects including conservation of sources of drinking water are vested with respective

States. Under JJM, States have been advised to take up the sustainability measures aimed at augmentation of sources of drinking water in convergence with Central Government schemes like Mahatma Gandhi Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP), Finance Commission Grants to Panchayati Raj institutions, etc.

In year 2019-20, Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA), a time-bound, mission-mode water conservation campaign was also launched in 256 water stressed districts across the country with the aim to promote water conservation and water resource management by focusing on accelerated implementation of five target interventions, viz., water conservation & rain water harvesting, renovation of traditional and other water bodies/ tanks, reuse and recharge of bore wells, watershed development and intensive afforestation.
