

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

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 50
ANSWERED ON 25/07/2024

DELAY OF JJM WORKS IN KERALA

*50. SHRI SHRI V K SREEKANDAN:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to State:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Jal Jeevan Mission Rural Household Tap Connection scheme is getting delayed in Kerala;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the State Government sought any extension for the scheme to mobilise the State's share of money for the remaining works;
- (d) whether it is also true that the contractors engaged for the works under the said scheme have stopped their works due to non-payment of their bills submitted for the last nineteen months; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI
(SHRI C R PATIL)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) in respect of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. *50 for reply on 25.07.2024 regarding delay of JJM works in Kerala asked by Shri V K Sreekandan

(a) and (b) Government of India is committed to make provision for safe & potable tap water supply in adequate quantity, of prescribed quality and on a regular & long-term basis to all rural households in the country. Towards this end, the Government of India launched the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), to be implemented in partnership with States/ UTs, in August 2019. Drinking Water is a State subject, and hence, the responsibility of planning, approval, implementation, operation, and maintenance of drinking water supply schemes, including those under the Jal Jeevan Mission, lies with State/ UT Governments. The Government of India supports the States by providing technical and financial assistance. Significant progress has been made in the country since the launch of Jal Jeevan Mission, towards enhancing access to tap water to rural households. At the start of Jal Jeevan Mission in August 2019, only 3.23 Crore rural households were reported to have tap water connections. So far, as reported by States/ UTs as on 23.07.2024, around 11.76 Crore additional rural households have been provided with tap water connections under JJM. Thus, as on 23.07.2024, out of 19.32 Crore rural households in the country, around 15 Crore (77.63%) rural households are reported to have tap water supply in their homes.

As reported by the State Government of Kerala, at the time of launch of Jal Jeevan Mission in the State on 15th August, 2019, approximately 16.64 lakh rural households had tap water connections. Since then, 21.12 lakhs additional rural households have been provided with tap water connections. Thus, as on 23.07.2024, the provision of tap water supply is available to around 37.76 lakhs (53.29%) rural households in Kerala.

To monitor the implementation of JJM, Government of India takes various measures such as holding joint review meetings with the State Government on regular basis and visits of multi-disciplinary teams from the Department to highlight areas of concern such as need to strengthen project planning, implementation, monitoring and to expedite the implementation in a mission mode to make provision of tap water supply to rural all households. During such review meetings, the State Government of Kerala has informed that one of the main reasons for delay in the award of works for JJM is difficulties in land acquisition for the various components of the new water supply schemes. The State Government has also informed that various clearances from forest, NHAI, Railways, Ministry of Road & Transport Highways are pending with respect to drinking water project/ schemes which have also affected the implementation of JJM in the State. The Department has setup a special cell for coordinating and following-up with these agencies/ authorities for timely clearances.

(c) No such request from State Government of Kerala is received regarding extension of JJM to mobilize the State's share of money for the remaining works, however, the State of Kerala has sought extension of period for awarding of works up to 16th August 2024.

(d) and (e) The Government of India has allocated an amount of Rs.1,949.36 crores to the State Government of Kerala for the financial year 2024-25. The first tranche of the central share was released on 6th May 2024 amounting to Rs 292.40 crores. The corresponding State share was released on 19th June 2024. The second tranche of the central share was released on 19th July 2024

amounting to Rs 292.40 crore. The corresponding State share is yet to be released by the State Government of Kerala. As informed by State Government, JJM works are in progress in the State and Rs.3,469 crores are to be paid to the contractors towards the completed JJM works. These payments will be made to contractors once the State releases the matching State share against the central share released by Government of India.
