



Har Ghar Jal
Jal Jeevan Mission

Building Partnership
Changing Lives



Jal Jeevan Mission

Har Ghar Jal

Reforms in Rural Drinking Water Supply
(Decentralized, demand-driven, community-managed
water supply programme)

15th August, 2019



Shri Narendra Modi
Prime Minister of India

“

...I declare from the Red Fort today that in the days to come, we will take forward the **Jal Jeevan Mission**. The central and the state governments will jointly work on this Jal Jeevan Mission. We have promised to spend more than **Rs. 3.50 Lakh Crore** on this mission in the coming years...

(Address to the Nation on 73rd Independence Day,
15th August, 2019 at Red Fort, New Delhi)

”



Smt. Droupadi Murmu

Hon'ble President of India

“

In three years, about 11 crore families have been connected with piped water supply under the Jal Jeevan Mission. Poor families are getting the maximum benefit from this.

In Parliament on 31st January 2023

“

...Until a few years ago, only 6% people of Manipur received piped water supply in their homes. Today, that network has reached over 60% households under Jal Jeevan Mission...



Extract from Prime Minister's address at the foundation stone laying ceremony of various drinking water projects in Manipur on 4th January, 2022

Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

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Jal Jeevan Mission

Har Ghar Jal

Reforms in Rural Drinking Water Supply

(Decentralized, demand-driven, community-managed water supply programme)

Introduction:

There have been several positive changes in the socio-economic structure of the country in the last few years which have improved the living standards of people. The basic amenities in a home in rural India now include toilet and clean cooking fuel. Due to continuous improvement in the standard of living, people's expectations have increased. Getting water at home through taps in villages is one such aspiration, and work is being done on a war footing to ensure that.

In 2019, out of about 19.43 Crore families in rural areas, about 3.23 Crore (17%) rural families had tap water connections in their homes. Thus, about 16 Crore families were fetching water from a drinking water source outside their homes. In water-stressed areas, especially during summer, people have been facing difficulties in having adequate potable water, thus affecting their daily life.

In order to find a permanent solution to the problem of water crisis, Jal Jeevan Mission: *Har Ghar Jal* was announced by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 73rd Independence Day, i.e. 15th August, 2019 from the ramparts of Red Fort, with an aim to ensure tap water supply to every rural home. Under the programme, every rural household is to have a functional tap water connection by 2024, thus ensuring piped water supply to every home.

The programme is to directly benefit more than 19 Crore rural families or more than 90 Crore rural population, bridging rural – urban divide, improving quality of life, enhancing 'ease of living' and public health. Jal Jeevan Mission, with an outlay of 3.60 lakh Crore in five years, will also give a boost to manufacturing, create job opportunities as well as lift rural economy. Assured piped water supply in homes will reduce the drudgery of women as they will no longer have to fetch water from a distance, and the saved time can be used for their livelihood which will bring dignity to them.

Jal Jeevan Mission – *Har Ghar Jal*, is a decentralized, demand-driven community-managed water supply programme that seeks to empower local village community, which means local village community is to play a central role in the planning, implementation, management, operation and maintenance of their own in-village water supply system.

This will lead to development of 'responsive and responsible leadership' at the village level. The Gram Panchayat or its sub-committee comprising of user groups that will play the role of a 'public utility'.

Based on Hon'ble Prime Minister's emphasis on '**Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas**', JJM adopted the principle of 'equity and inclusion', i.e. ensuring 'no one is left out' from getting tap water connection and regular water supply in the village, especially weaker and marginalized sections.

Then



Now



Reforms taken under **Jal Jeevan Mission**

Shift of focus for water supply from 'habitations to households'

So far, drinking water supply was provided at a habitation level to enable people to get potable water from a drinking water sources like hand pumps, public standposts, etc. at a reasonable distance. During scarcity and drought, in many parts of the country, water is provided by taking emergency measures including deployment of water tankers and even railway tankers.

Under Jal Jeevan Mission, provision of tap water is being made in every rural home so that every family gets potable water in adequate quantity and of prescribed quality on regular and long-term basis.



Jal Jeevan Mission is specially benefiting women

Focus on 'service delivery' & 'functionality' – public utility

Under Jal Jeevan Mission, the focus has shifted to assured supply of potable water to every home rather than mere creation of water supply infrastructure. The mission has undertaken massive training and skilling programme to build the capacity of local village community including masons, plumbers, pump operators, etc. as well as of public health engineers so that they are able to ensure service delivery i.e. assured and regular supply of potable tap water in every home. Public Health Engineering Department and Gram Panchayats and/ or its sub-committees are to play the role of public utility, thus changing the lives of people and improving 'ease of living'.

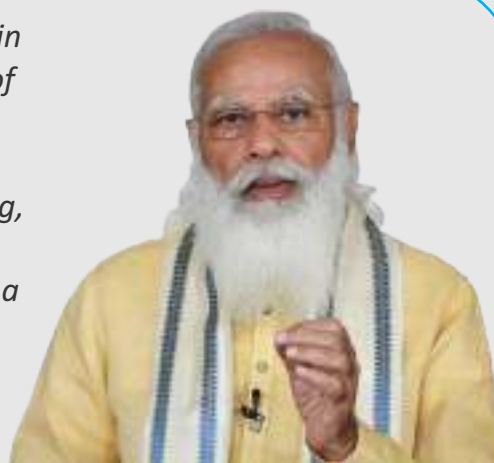
Community ownership to ensure 'long-term sustainability' of water supply schemes

To ensure transparency and give back power to people, water supply work is taken up as per demand and need of local community. A water supply scheme is planned and implemented by following **decentralized, demand-driven, community-managed** approach. Local village community owns the water supply system as well as operates & maintains it on a long-term basis to ensure assured water supply to every home. Water supply systems thus created are expected to last its full design period, public investment is not wasted, and people get safe piped water supply in their homes on long-term basis.

“

...The implementation of this mission is in the hands of community, all members of the village are to come together to implement this Mission...decisions on route of water pipeline, water harvesting, operation and maintenance made by people themselves and our sisters have a very important role to play...

Narendra Modi
Minister of India



”

(Extract from Prime Minister's address at Bundelkhand on 29 February, 2020)

Central role of women and weaker sections in managing water supply

In rural areas, managing homes including fetching water is considered as the responsibility of women. Keeping this in view, minimum 50% members of Village Water & Sanitation Committee (VWSC)/ Pani Samitis are to be women and proportionate representation of weaker sections of society is ensured.

Then



Now



Five women in every village are trained on water quality surveillance

Special focus on children – piped water supply in Schools, Anganwadi Centres and Ashramshalas

Infants and children are more susceptible to water-borne diseases. Under Jal Jeevan Mission, provision of piped water supply in Schools, Anganwadi Centers and Ashramshalas (residential tribal Schools) is to be made on priority. With assured supply of potable piped water in Schools, Anganwadi Centres and Ashramshalas, incidence of water-borne diseases will come down, thus improving overall development of children.



Handwash stations with tap water supply in schools



Tap water supply in anganwadi centres

Potable drinking water in quality-affected habitations

Ground water is a major source of drinking water. But in some parts of the country, it has geo-genic contaminants like Arsenic, Fluoride, Iron, Salinity, Heavy Metals, etc. All such villages/ habitations having water quality problems have been given priority under Jal Jeevan Mission so that families living in these villages get potable piped water supply in their homes.

Provision of potable water in such areas will save people from serious health issues due to consumption of contaminated water. This will benefit people living in villages especially in Arsenic and Fluoride-affected areas.

Surveillance of water quality by the local community involving women

Enlightened citizenry is necessary for assured service delivery. Keeping this in view, at least **five persons** in every village, preferably women, are to be trained on using Field Test Kits (FTKs) for testing of water quality at village level. Further, drinking water quality testing **laboratories in various States/ UTs have been opened to general public** so that they can ascertain the quality of their drinking water samples on paying nominal charges. This will help in improving public health and in reducing water-borne diseases, benefitting entire rural population, especially vulnerable groups like women and children.



Water quality testing
by village community

Convergence for long-term drinking water security

Every village is to prepare a Village Action Plan (VAP) focusing on drinking water sources, water supply systems, grey water reuse and operation & maintenance of these systems for long term and regular tap water supply in every home. This is to be achieved by dovetailing all available resources of different programmes at village level to achieve long-term water security, thus eliminating any need for emergency measures like supply through tankers, etc.

This holistic approach helps in achieving water security by meaningful utilization of fund and augmenting drinking water sources. A water enlightened village (*Jal Prabudh gaon*) will lead to self-reliant India.

Making water everyone's business

JJM is implemented in a participatory manner and Self-Help Groups (SHGs), NGOs, community-based organizations, voluntary organizations, etc. are to play a major role in raising awareness, community mobilization and handholding.



Technological interventions for transparency and accountability

To ensure transparency, accountability, proper utilization of funds and service delivery, following steps are undertaken:

- A robust JJM–IMIS to capture physical and financial progress under JJM in real-time and a dedicated '**Dashboard**' in the public domain;
- A dedicated '**Mobile App**' developed for use of all stakeholders, and 'ease of working';
- Sensor-based IoT solution for **measurement** and **monitoring** of water supply for quantity, quality and regularity in villages on real time basis;
- Provision of **geo-tagging** every asset created under JJM;
- Linkage of tap connection with **Aadhar number** of the 'head of household';
- All transaction through **Public Finance Management System (PFMS)**;
- A comprehensive JJM - **Water Quality Management Information System (JJM - WQMIS)** developed.

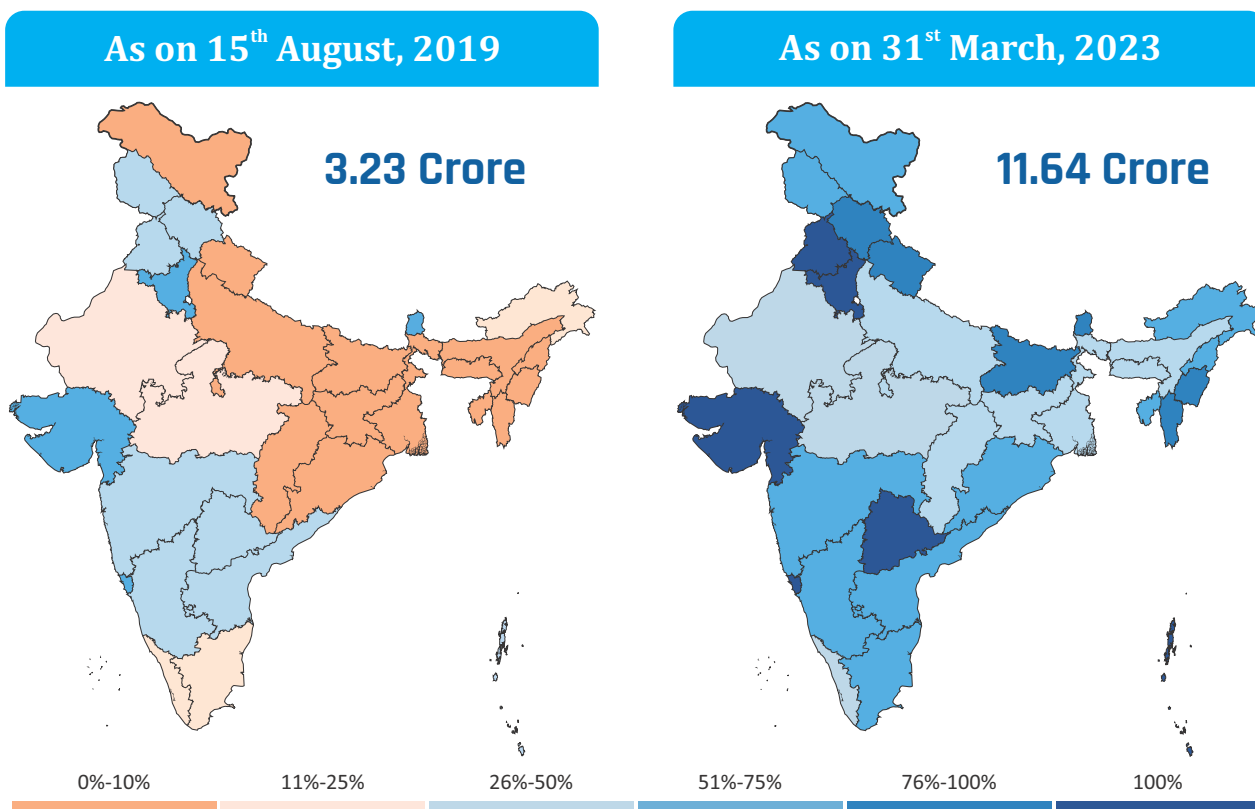
Performance grant as incentive to States/ UTs

Every year, nation-wide functionality assessment survey is carried out in each district by a third-party agency. Based on performance of States/ UTs, *inter alia* which includes functionality of tap water connections, incentive grant is provided. This has brought focus on functionality of piped water supply systems/ tap connections and will give a push to supply of clean water to rural households in adequate quantity, quality and on regular basis.

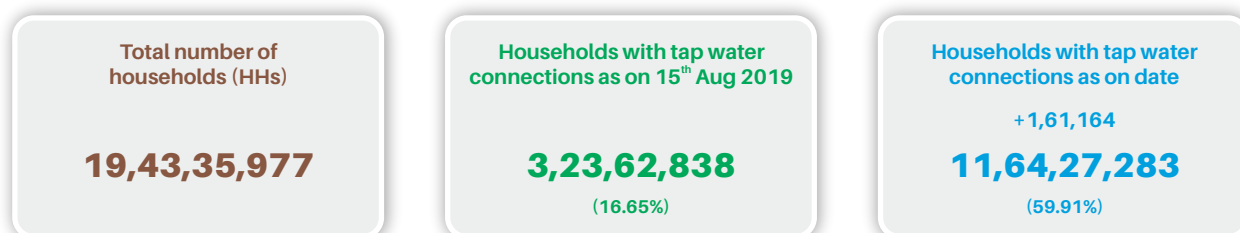


JJM - WQMIS Dashboard

Transforming rural India Progress of tap water connections



India | Status of tap water supply in rural homes



Households provided with tap water connection since launch of the Mission

8,40,64,445 (51.90%)

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

100% FHTC States/ UTs

Goa, Telangana, A & N Islands, Puducheerry, D&NH and D&D, Haryana, Punjab

100% FHTC Districts

130

100% FHTC Blocks

1,340

100% FHTC Panchayats

74,679

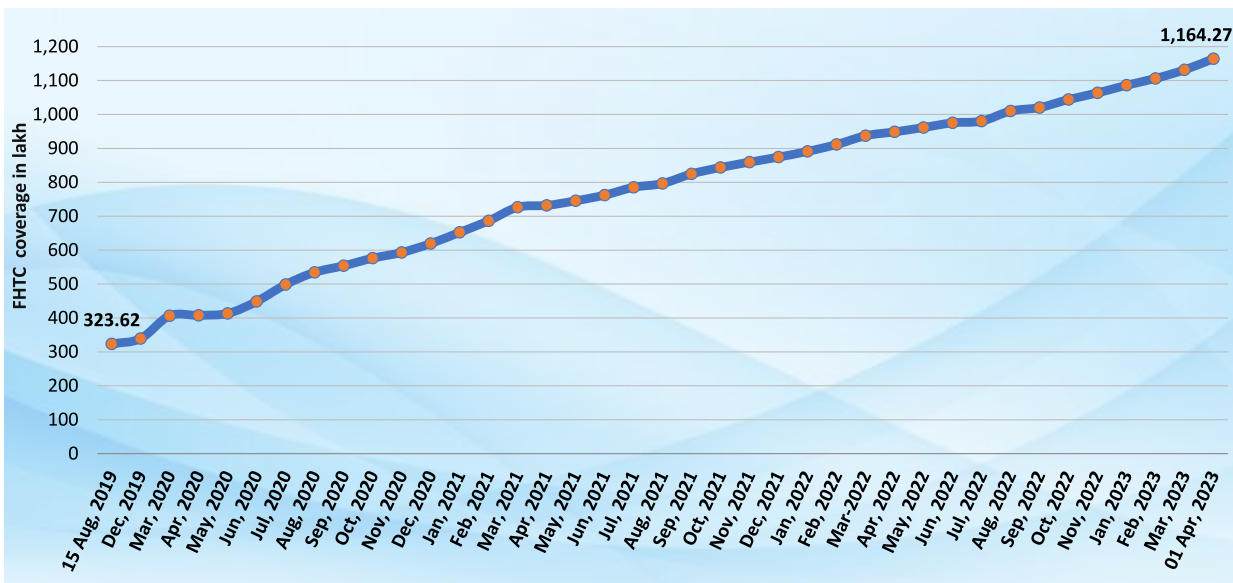
100% FHTC Villages

1,55,775

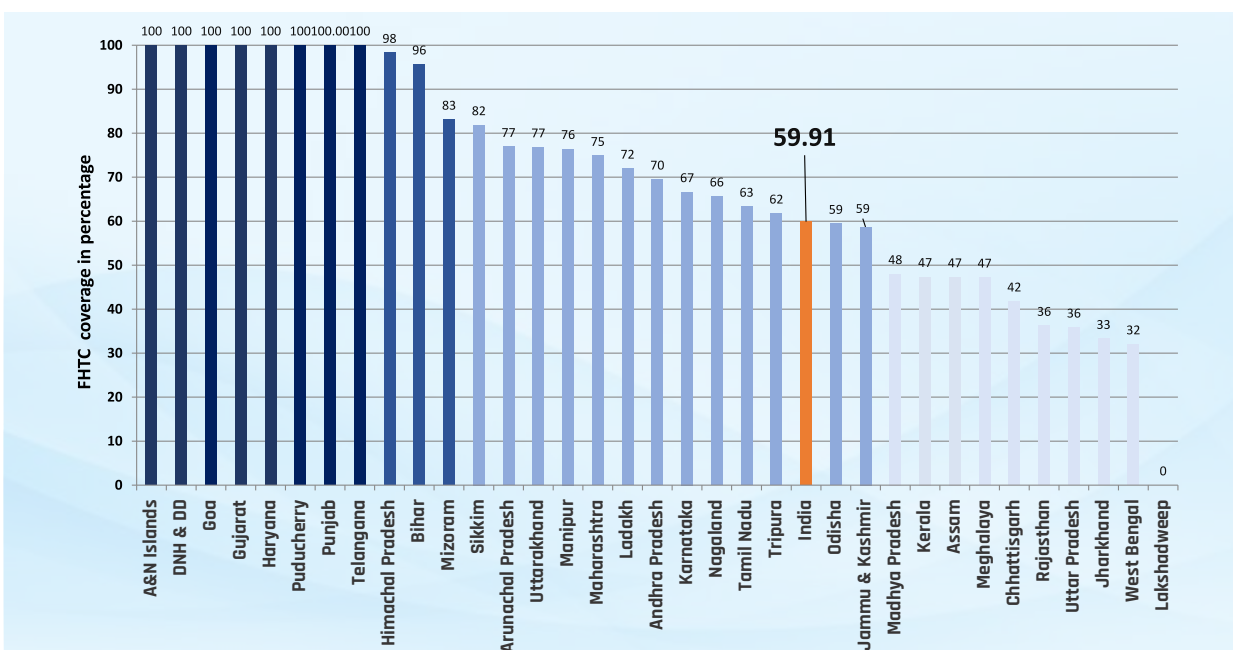
Transforming rural India

Progress of tap water connections

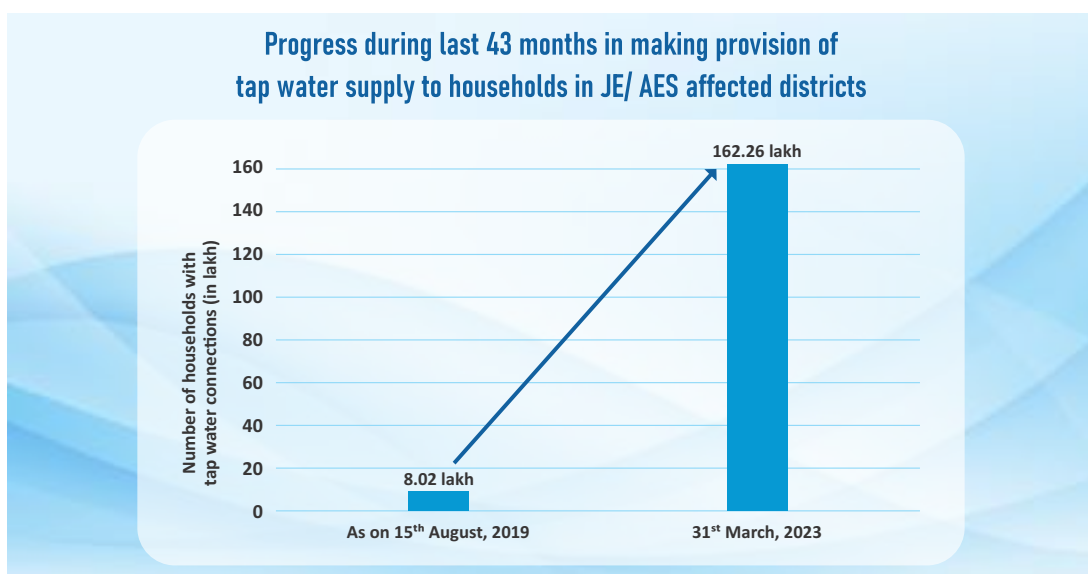
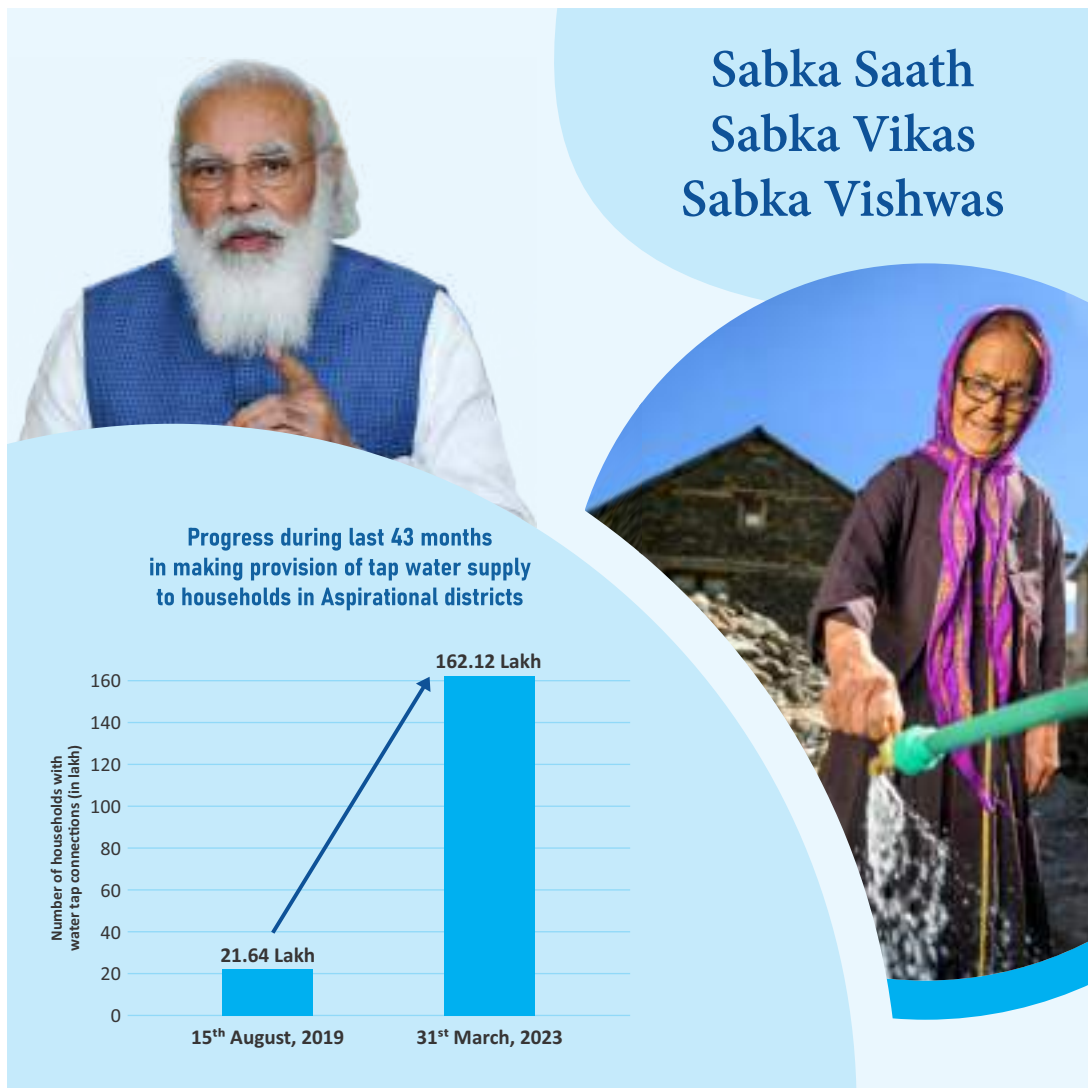
Progressive coverage-Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) (as on 31.03.2023)



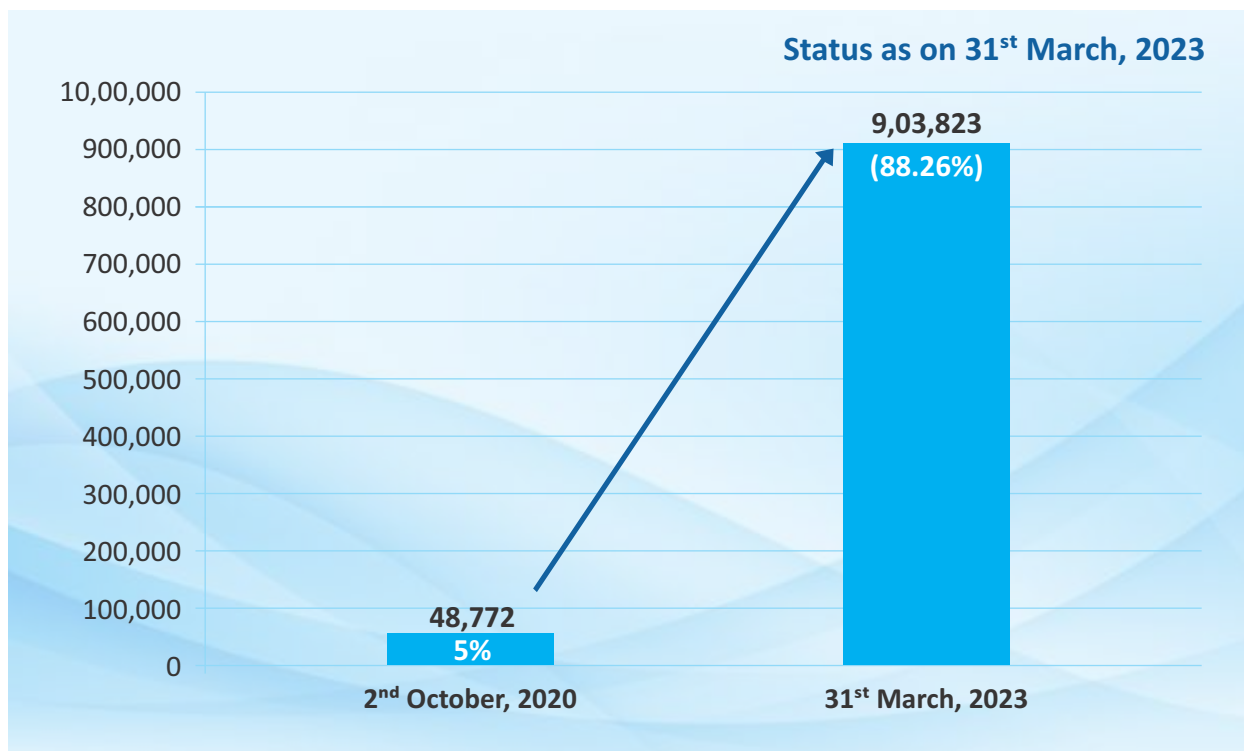
Comparative FHTC coverage status of States/ UTs (as on 31.03.2023)



Tap water supply transforms the picture of rural India

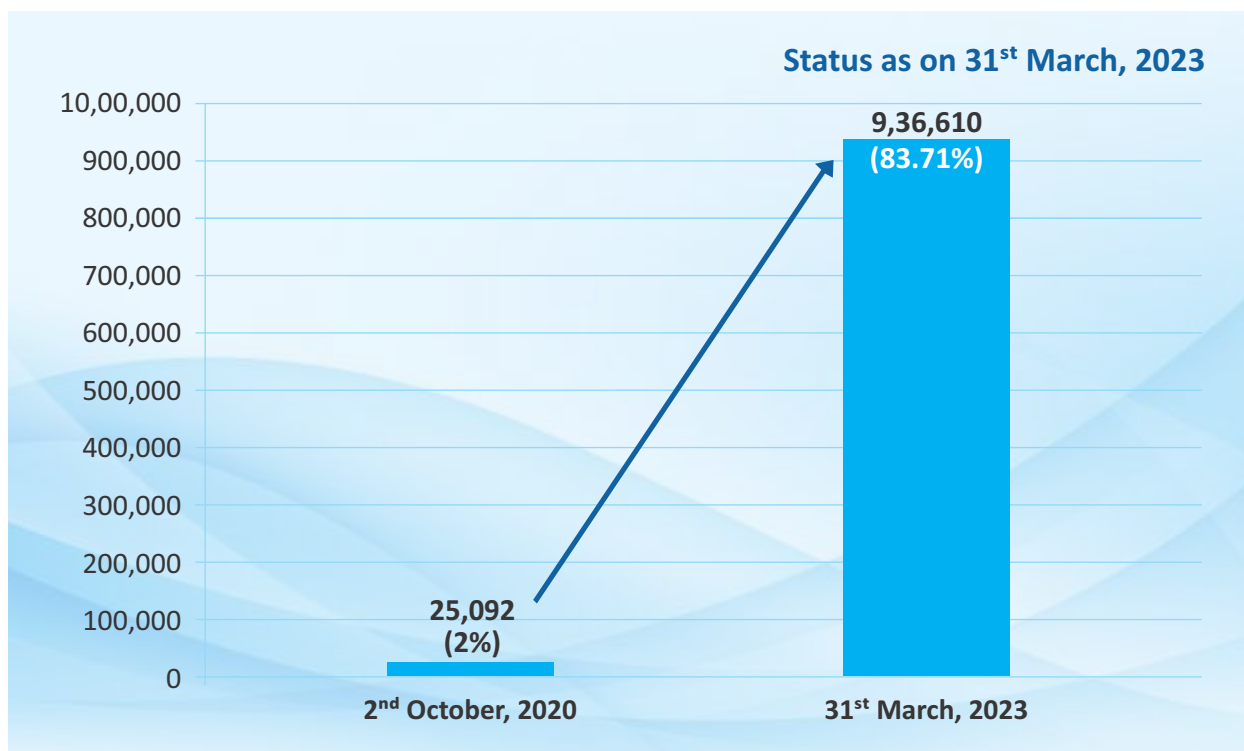


Progress of piped water connection in schools



Source: JJM Dashboard, as of March 31, 2023

Progress of piped water connection in Anganwadi centers



Source: JJM Dashboard, as of March 31, 2023

Testimonials of Water Warriors

Torchbearers



"Learning about the challenges faced by families with no water supply drew me to accept the responsibility of becoming a Jal Mitra. Today as a Jal Mitra, I am working to promote water security and judicious use of water which includes grey water management and source sustainability".

Khileswari Kurre

Jal Mitra, District Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh



"I am working as a valve Operator in a tribal district. My daily routine begins at 7 in the morning when I leave home to start the pump and supply water in every household. I cannot be late for work as people wait for water. I have joined a trade where very few women can be seen. I would urge other women to join and extend their support in Har Ghar Jal programme".

Rekha Pradhan

Valve Operator, Bharmila village, Umariya District, Madhya Pradesh



"With tap water connections at home, women have time for themselves. I am working on engaging women in gainful economic activity so that they are financially independent. Jal Jeevan Mission has opened a new vista of women empowerment".

Kulwinder

Sarpanch, Memha Bhagwana Village,
Bhatinda District, Punjab



Torchbearers



"I am happy working as a Junior Engineer under Har Ghar Jal programme where change is visible on the ground. It fills me with pride to see the joy written on peoples face as they see water oozing out of taps in their homes. I am motivated everyday as I step out for work because I know my work is changing the country especially those who live in far-flung areas. I will be able to tell the future generations in times to come that I have been part of the Mission which provide water in every household".

Debasree Lodh

Junior Engineer, Kakrabon Block, District Gomati, Tripura



"I strongly believe that women are equal to men in every front and are sincere in handling the responsibilities assigned. Being a woman surrounded by men right from labour to mason and contractor, my journey saw many ups and downs in a male dominated society. I was never taken seriously and on many occasions questioned on the decisions taken. But I battled through and today I stand tall amongst all my male colleagues supporting the flagship programme of the GoI for providing tap water connection in every rural household".

Nidhi Mishra, Assistant Engineer, Public Health Engineering Department, Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh



"I am happy working as a Water Analyst. After completing my Post Graduation from Jammu University, I joined the laboratory. Earlier the water samples were collected from the water source by the Junior Engineer and Lab Technicians but since we have organized a number of workshops in the villages to sensitize the public, a number of people now visit us with water samples to check E.coli, Bacteria and Turbidity in water, especially during rainy season".

Noreen Afzal Lone

Water Analyst, District Rajouri, Jammu & Kashmir



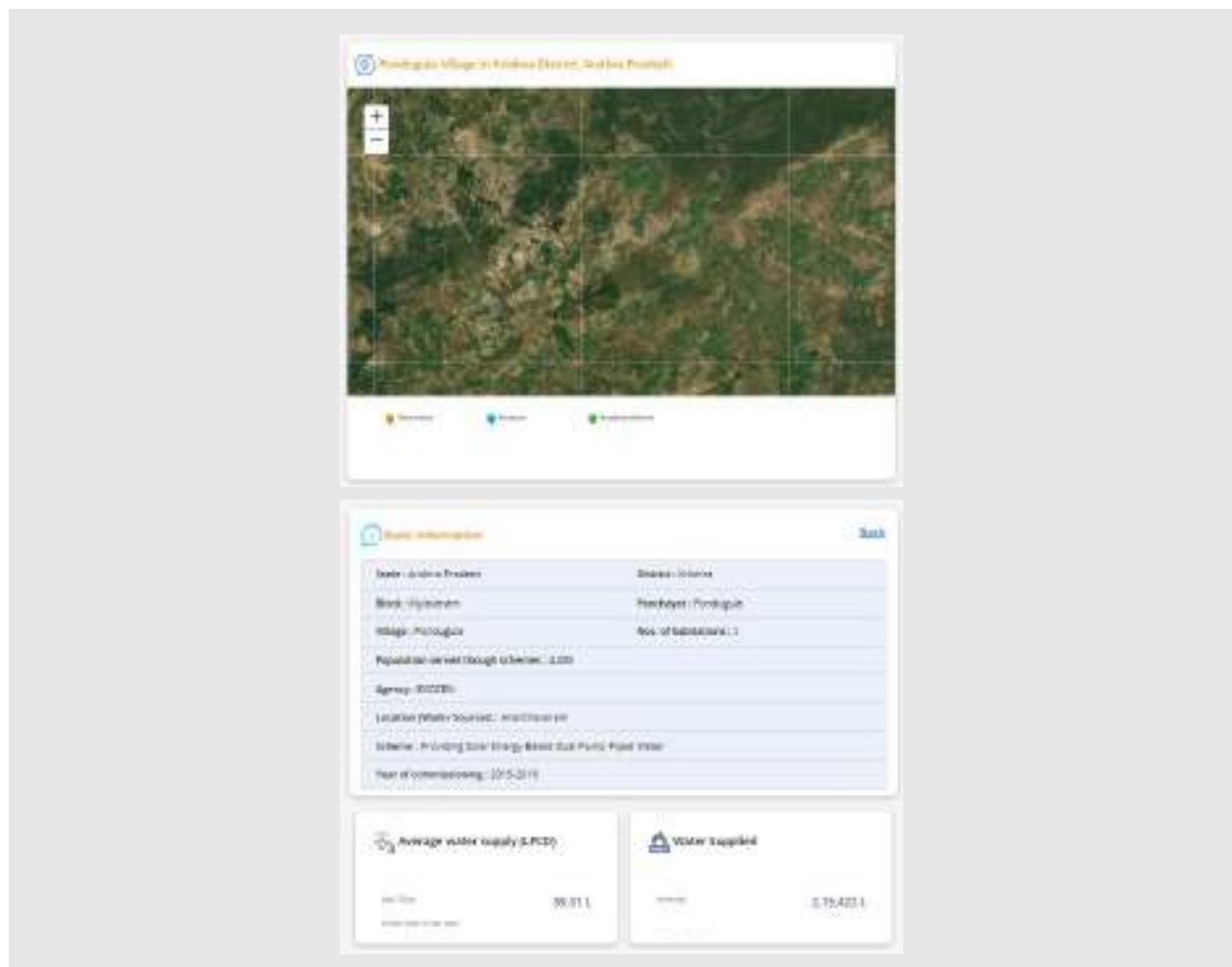
Community participation is the key for 'Har Ghar Jal'

Sensor-based IoT system to measure and monitor water supply in villages

In an initiative to digitise water supply infrastructure in rural India, Jal Jeevan Mission has reached out to all States/ UTs for rolling out of sensor-based IoT solutions to measure and monitor water supply in the hinterlands. The initiative aims at ensuring water service delivery in rural homes by addressing issues that cause disruption in water supply on regular basis.

The mission has asked States/ UTs to provide sensor-based IoT solutions in a move to measure and monitor water supply in rural areas. It will address the water supply disruption faced in rural homes. This huge step of digitization of water supply will surely address many perennial problems and ensure service delivery in rural areas.

India has one of the most vibrant IoT eco-systems in the world, with various supporting enablers making it conducive for companies seeking to serve the global demand beyond national boundaries. Government of India has introduced a number of initiatives to utilize this expertise.



The Pani Samiti of each village is trained to use a visual dashboard, which is designed in their local dialect. It helps them to proactively monitor groundwater level and build source strengthening structures. This is the benefit of training local people to become 'responsible & responsive' leaders. Through digitization, NJJM aims to make provision of clean & accessible water for every single Indian in the remotest corner of the country. It will go a long way in ensuring quality of life & the overall health of the nation.

The mission, in partnership with State Governments and sector partners, has started facilitating sensor-based water supply system on pilot basis in several villages. The data from 38 pilot locations about the daily water supply in quantity and regularity are shown on Jal Jeevan Mission IMIS dashboard: <https://ejalshakti.gov.in/jjmreport/JJMIndia.aspx>.



Rural women monitoring the quantity and quality of water

Jal Jeevan Mission enables health & well-being of rural population

The soul of India resides in villages. The best way to complement the 'can do' spirit of 130 Crore Indians was to see them fight the global pandemic last year. Government of India is working relentlessly to improve the quality of life, provide basic infrastructure and ensure well-being of people through various schemes.

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

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

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

Women, who are generally the primary water managers, would be freed from the age-old drudgery of walking a distance, carrying loads multiple times, waiting in queues, etc. The newfound time may be used in learning a new skill or other income generating activities, support children's education, or even for leisure. They would not have to worry about seasonal changes or increased trips anymore. Assured tap water supply in their homes gives them dignity.

While Central and State Governments only act as patron and facilitator for the 'Har Ghar Jal' programme, the real power is vested with the village communities, who are responsible for planning, implementation, management, operation and maintenance of the in-village water supply system.

Village Water & Sanitation Committee/ Pani Samiti is being constituted in every village to carry out mapping of existing water sources, undertake water conservation, initiate dialogue with the community to pay water user charges, test water quality at regular intervals and

ensure maintenance at all time of the infrastructure created under the programme. People's representatives such as Members of Parliament, MLAs, Sarpanch/ Gram Panchayat members, etc. have a critical role to play in the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission to ensure that 'no one is left behind'.

Through the programme, aim is to build the capacity of women, in sectors which were otherwise considered male bastions like working as masons, mechanics, plumbers, pump operators, technicians, utility managers and water testing laboratory staff. With major infrastructure development taking place across the country a lot of employment opportunities shall be generated at all levels for skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled labour force. People will be engaged in various activities beyond construction as regular repair, maintenance and operation of the infrastructure will be needed under in-village and multi-village water supply schemes.

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



Worshipping Tap after getting first time water direct at Home



A tribal woman hailing from remote village of Karnataka expressing happiness while fetching water from tap



Students 'learning by doing' in a school

Rejuvenation of Traditional Water Sources: Water Conservation

Water warrior of Bundelkhand

“It’s much better walking alone in the right direction,
than following the herd in the wrong direction”

This has been the driving force and motto of Swami Krishnanand. It was only his resolute and untiring efforts that changed the water condition of his village. He has been a one-man army in rejuvenating the local pond of his village Pachkhura Bujurg of Hamirpur District that falls in the parched zone of Bundelkhand region. Receding water table, prolonged droughts and water pollution has gripped the Bundelkhand area since long. While the entire region of Bundelkhand is in grip of water scarcity, there are people like Swami Krishnanand who are going out of their way to do the best to conserve water.

Swami Krishnanand desilted 250 years old pond for rain water harvesting, all alone. After his two-year long efforts, the pond of 2.7 acres, is now 8 ft deep, filled with water through out the year. “Every change should start from the ground level, and through public participation,” says Swami Krishnanand. He firmly believes that water is everyone’s business, and to end the scarcity of this precious resource, a collective, cohesive effort from all is required.



Jakhni village: an oasis in Bundelkhand

Catch the raindrops wherever they fall! This is an old belief which enriches the moisture of soil and also makes the area fertile. The village community of Jakhni village in Banda District have revived their six ponds, 30 wells and also replenished their ground water table by adopting traditional methods of water conservation.

“khet par med, med par ped” (Ridge on land and trees on ridge), is the widely acclaimed slogan of the community here. They have built wells, water bodies, ponds, and traditional water sources-all with the cohesive effort of community based participatory water management. Planting trees in the village has been an important part of the water cycle. As a result of water storage in the fields, the water table has increased and subsequently it has resulted in increased agricultural produce. Uma Shankar Pandey, the convenor of Jakhni village believes in the principle of “farm water in the farm, village water in the village”. The result is overwhelming as now Jakhni is considered as one of the richest villages in Uttar Pradesh and now many other villages have started following the ‘Jakhni model’ of water conservation. The lush green village is truly an oasis in the parched Bundelkhand region.



Uma Shankar Pandey, Representative of Jakhni Village

Madhya Pradesh village celebrates 'Jal Utsav' to welcome tap water connection

Yes! The smile is real for the four-year-old 'Muskaan'. It's the first time in her life she is seeing tap water connection in her household. As her mother prepares to worship the tap, she could barely wait for the 'pooja' to be over, and insists to open the tap to enjoy & feel the first gush of water. Finally, her patience paid off; with one swish of the tap, clean water gushed out & Muskaan bursts into giggles and claps. "I can drink water during my playtime without pestering my mother for it"- gleefully chirps Muskaan! This is how freedom & 'ease of living' looks like for the four-year-old girl. Muskaan's mother reverberates the same happiness. For her, the tap water meant better health for her kids and ample quality time for herself.

Damhedi village of Anuppur District of Madhya Pradesh celebrated 'Jal Utsav' to welcome tap water connections in their households in January, 2021. The village was decked up with rangolis and flower decorations & villagers were in their finest clothes & tribal accessories.

The festivities included tribal songs, dance & music which filled the whole atmosphere with the spirit of joy. The village which mostly comprises of tribal population has suffered paucity of potable water in their area since ever. But now, it's a double dip of celebration for them as the availability of tap water has provided 'ease of living' to the community as well as has brought their revered river Narmada to their homes.

Women were seen worshipping and bowing before the tap, as a mark of respect to their river deity. "I feel blessed as the mother river, lovingly called 'Maiyya' (mother in local language) has come to my doorstep to bless me"- says a village lady.



Muskaan's mother preparing for tap worship



Muskaan happy with tap water in her home for first time

Karangadh village: from no tap connection to 100% Tap Water connection in Just One Year!

Karangadh village in Ahmedabad district of Gujarat not only became water secure but also managed to provide great relief to the women community of the village. Surajben Manjibhai Bhambharia, a Sarpanch of Karangadh village is a happy and a proud woman now. The village, which faced acute water crisis over the years, is now water sufficient as community came forward to participate in development of village water supply scheme.

Karangadh village is 42 km away from Viramgam block of Ahmedabad district in Gujarat with a population of 624 spread across 120 households. During summer, the water scarcity became severe with depleting water level as ponds dry up. Acute water scarcity meant longer walk in scorching heat for the women of the village. On most occasions young girls were assigned the task to collect water for the household chores supporting their mothers. It not just caused discomfort to women but also consumed a lot of their time which otherwise could be used for livelihood generation or learning for adolescent girls.

However, this situation soon changed. Water and Sanitation Management Organisation (WASMO) officials realized the need to find a solution for the water crisis. Initial community meetings were organized in the village and the community agreed that a village water supply scheme is needed to suffice their water needs.

A Gram Sabha was organized explaining the objectives of Jal Jeevan Mission and the planning exercise needed to prepare the Village Action Plan. Women were encouraged to participate in the Gram Sabha as they are the primary water managers in households. Women were happy to learn that water was the focus of discussion in the Gram Sabha instead of building roads or other infrastructure.

Majority of the residents are daily wage earners who live on daily earnings. As people had no money it was a very tough to collect contribution from the villagers. During the deliberations, the community was informed that, “On an average, women spend 4 hours a day to fetch water for domestic needs which means 120 hours in a month and about 60 days in a year. If women will get water at their door step they can spend the time on gainful economic activities like rearing cattle, farming and handicraft. If each family contributes some amount, the village will find a permanent solution to the water problem”. On understanding the gravity and the financial loss they incur every year the community agreed to take up in-village water supply scheme. Door-to-door collection was undertaken from every household and those families who were unable to pay, the cost was borne by WASMO.

After collecting the community contribution the Pani Samiti took up the execution of the village water supply scheme. Within a year the scheme was completed and today every household of Karangadh village has functional household tap connection. Nanji bhai, a resident of the village is in-charge of looking after and administering the water supply system. He is entrusted with the job of ensuring water supply to the village.

Government of India is working to ensure 'ease of living' for women and children in the villages. The mission provides time to women for rest, child care, household work and leisure. They are able to find time to support their families in farm and other off-farm income-generating activities.



The women of Karangadh are happy with the tap water connections at home

Potable water reaches Rarri Gram Panchayat of Samba district in J&K

The Public Health & Engineering Department (PHED) in Jammu Division is working to bring God into people's home through water to serve the humanity. 2,700 people living in Rarri Gram Panchayat for years had been relying on shallow handpumps to meet their daily household needs. The water used for drinking and cooking by the 540 households in Samba district is not potable, but the residents are left with no other option other than taking water from these handpumps. Digging individual borewells is neither feasible nor cost effective.

Samba, is situated at 1,259 feet above sea level in the foothills of Shivalik range on the bank of Basantar river around 40 km from Jammu. It is bound on the north by Udhampur and shares 55 km international border. It is the most industrialized district in the UT. In order to provide adequate quantity of prescribed quality water on regular and long-term basis, under Jal Jeevan Mission programme the Department is executing a single village scheme for Rarri Gram Panchayat. The engineering work of digging a 600 feet deep tube well was initiated in May 2021 and it will complete in next couple of months. The future demand for water in the GP will be 1,40,000 gallons, which can be met through this tube well. A sump tank with a capacity of 20,000 gallons and an overhead tank with a storage capacity of 50,000 gallons is under construction.



Kashmiri woman washing her hands from the tap

Jal Jeevan Mission: Empowering women

Inspiring stories of women breaking glass ceilings

Reshmi and her husband Arun Chaturvedi are truly today's couple as they work together to make their ends meet. Both are earning and contribute equally to household chores along with bringing up their child. Arun gets income by working in a shop while Reshmi works as a pump operator; certainly, a flip to what a conventional society decides for most of us. This is not a story from urban India, but from a remote village of Madhya Pradesh, where the development is seeping in, not just through infrastructure, but also by blurring gender barriers, gradually & steadily.

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

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



Reshmi, operating the pump

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

Another inspiring story is of Rekha Pradhan who is a 10th pass tribal woman, working as a pump operator in the village Kathar. She travels 3 km daily to Kathar from her house in Bharmila village. Her husband is a MNREGA labourer and is very proud of his wife's will & hard work.

Rekha is a torchbearer for other tribal women of her area as she has surpassed multiple impediments to create a niche for herself. ***"I wish to learn more and train other women of my society,"*** says Rekha with an astute determined look in her eyes. Manpur MVS has one more pump operator Ms. Gyani Yadav of Kolar village who holds a Graduate degree and is setting an example for other women of her community.

Traditionally, women were considered to be the best managers for household water usage and maintenance. Today, these women pump operators & VWSC members are substantiating this thought and beyond.

They can be the best pick for water management- at any level-as, their sensitivity towards the subject is the key to their best performance. ***Thanks to Jal Jeevan Mission for making the silent revolution happen.***



Rekha, pump operator

The woman pump operator who defied the conventions

“It is not just a man’s bastion. It is the women who is most affected by non-availability of water. When we can do other works then why not a skilled job. I have earned love and respect from my people in this profession.”

G. Kala- a 48-year-old and mother of two children, is the only female pump operator in Vallam village of Vellore district. Her journey as a pump operator and technician began 9 years ago. It was the time when their family was mourning the sudden demise of a dear friend with whom her husband worked in partnership. The friend served as a pump operator in Kullathumeda habitation. His sudden demise brought the work of operating the pump to a halt. There was no skilled person available in the village to take up the job. Despite of being in grief, Kala stepped forward. Till now she had only worked as a labourer along with her husband. She proposed her name as the pump operator. The Department too encouraged her by providing basic training of how to operate the pump. Kala filled the vacant position in a man’s world as the only female pump operator in the district and started operating 3 Over Head Tanks (OHTs). G. Kala proudly caters to the needs to 475 households which has 28.6% Functional Household Tap Connection coverage. Kala is self-motivated who has with time learnt the skill of carrying out minor repair works. In all these years she has earned the respect of the community and is the **go-to person** for any leakages in the pipeline. Under the JJM programme she is extending support to the Public Health & Engineering Department by monitoring the construction works carried out and helping map the places where the pipelines already exist or require new ones. G. Kala wants more women to come forward and take up the profession as mechanics and pump operators.



The only woman pump operator in Vallam village

Communities lead the way in drinking water management in Punjab

Takhni village in Kandi area of Hoshiarpur district is a remote village located at the foot of Shivalik hills, having 165 households. Traditionally the villagers had to rely on the rivulets passing through the region and open wells for drinking water purposes. The villagers faced health problems due to consumption of contaminated water. One fine day the villagers decided to resolve the drinking water problem and approached the local authority (PHED) resulting in groundwater-based Single village Scheme (SVS) commissioned in June, 2020.

The Takhni SVS provides tap water connections to all the households in the village, including schools and anganwadis. The scheme is completely operated by Gram Panchayat Water Sanitation Committee (GPWSC). The GPWSC collects a tariff of Rs. 150 per month from each household to cover the monthly O&M expenses. A special feature of the scheme is that it supplies water to 40 households situated at higher elevation, where water is lifted through booster pumping. Households at higher elevation received potable water of sufficient quantity after 40 years through this scheme. Community surveillance of water



**Women in Takhni village with
tap water connections in home**

quality is being done using FTKs. Takhni, Tana and Naulakha villages are some classic examples of community led single village water supply schemes adhering to the ethos of Jal Jeevan Mission in planning, implementation and operation and maintenance by the local village community. In both the schemes, GPWSCs comprises of more than 50% women members responsibly carrying out the activities. Most villages in Punjab have active community participation in the Operation & Management (O&M) of schemes through GPWSC. Out of 13,690 piped water supply (PWS) villages, 5,624 PWS villages are completely managed by GPWSCs. Punjab has a uniform policy to collect community contribution for in-village infrastructure of water supply schemes. In the plains- Rs. 800 per household (general category) and Rs. 400 per household (SC category) is collected. Likewise, for hills - Rs. 400 per household (general category) and Rs. 200 per household (SC category) is collected by Gram Panchayat. As a policy, new water supply works are taken up only after the entire community contribution has been collected and deposited in the bank account of GPWSC. Many villages in Punjab have water meters installed at the household level. In some of the villages, volumetric tariffs are being charged based on the water meter reading. However, most of the villages still charge a flat tariff. Most of the water supply schemes run by GPWSCs are financially sustainable and they collect the entire O&M costs through household-level tariffs. State emphasizes on 100% volumetric tariffs so that water wastage can be minimized. The goal is to improve the lives of the villagers, particularly women & children and provide better quality of life through “Functional Household Tap Connections” (FHTCs) to every rural household by 2022. The State is committed to be a ‘Har Ghar Jal Rajya’ by 2022.

15th August, 2020



Narendra Modi

Prime Minister



...Last time, I had made an announcement for the Jal Jeevan Mission. It is completing one year. I am very proud to tell you that our dream of making available safe drinking water to all the people is getting realized. The solution to several health problems is directly linked to the safe drinking water. It also contributes to the nation's economy. That's why we have started the Jal Jeevan Mission.

Today, I am happy to share that every day we are able to provide piped-water connection to over one lakh households. And in the last one year, we have been able to provide tap water to 2 Crore families, especially to the tribals living in the forests and far-flung areas. A huge campaign has been launched. And I am glad that today 'Jal Jeevan Mission' has created an environment of healthy competition in the country. There is a healthy competition among the districts, among the cities and also among the States. Everyone is hoping that the Prime Minister's dream of 'Jal Jeevan Mission' is accomplished at the earliest in their respective areas. The new strength of cooperative and competitive federalism has been associated with the 'Jal Jeevan Mission' and we are moving forward with this...

(Address to the Nation on 74th Independence Day,
i.e. 15th August, 2020 from ramparts of Red Fort, New Delhi)



News articles on Jal Jeevan Mission

In these Haryana villages, PM Modi's 'Har Ghar Jal' has ended a painful daily chore for women

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

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

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

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

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

In J&K's Ganderbal, 'Har Ghar Jal' has reached all rural houses

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

Ganderbal: Shaheen Ahmed, a Ganderbal-based businessman, has no doubt that the Narendra Modi Government's 'Har Ghar Jal' programme — which seeks to ensure drinking water supply to every rural household by 2024 — has made things better in the district. Manzoor Ahmed Lone, the sarpanch for Kangan in Ganderbal, also has a similar opinion.

In rural Punjab, 'Har Ghar Jal' has brought not just water but also a luxury few had: 'free time'

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

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



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

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

Social media buzz



राजस्थान पत्रिका

महिलाओं को सर्वाधिक प्रभावित करते हैं जल और स्वच्छता जैसे मुद्दे: मुर्मू

1998

फार्म पौन्ड (तलाई) से जल संचयन का अनूठा प्रयास

[illegible]

**"INDIA'S
INVESTMENT IN
WATER TREATMENT
WILL POSITIVELY
IMPACT ITS
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT"**

Top WB official drinks tap water in B'khand village, praises U.P.

BEHIND : Executive director-designate of World Bank (WB), Parasuraman Iyer, drank water from a tap in a Chennai village on Monday to verify the implementation of the 'Har Ghar Jal' by Tamil Nadu government of Universal Drinking

Ben A. Kerner (1948-1993) who was appointed executive director of the World Bank last week, is a son of his land (and later, "Globe to be in Hands"), the chief region in UP and now the Jai Arjun Mission is declaring the Ghat Jal. Arahase in village Purnea in District, I think, Chaitanya. I recall Prime Minister Narendra Modi, knowing this transformational programme in 2010. "The Uttar Pradesh government is rapidly implementing the Jai Arjun Mission to sink Bhopal/Chandigarh. Inspired by veteran Daniel Sanchez that are carrying out water quality testing," he added.

The women Panch Samiti is a 5-member team of women in each ULF village where the 'Har Ghar Jal' mission is being implemented. These teams check the quality of water and

Parameerwarthi, executive director-designate, World Bank, at a house in Nandakani village to break the red dust of the Ghazal scheme in winter stored crockery of the same.

They interacted with the women who were part of it.

After checking the water quality, the Point Source women upload details of water quality on the Jal Jeeva Mission portal and her spent time with them is understood how this function is.

but a hot-inked water treatment plant at Ghoshpura. During his visit to various Banachand villages, Iyer also interacted with locals who told him how availability of clean drinking water on their doorstep had made a difference in their lives.

At several villages, Iyer engaged for random interactions

"Have you started getting clean drinking water," he asked as the villagers responded positively. How many times in a day do you get water supply? Twice, the villagers said. So how are you feeling now? Very good, said the worried villagers.

He also praised the team of officers that has been working towards the Har Glac Air mission successfully.

Present at the occasion were principal secretary, rural water supply and Namani Ganga Anand Srivastava, MD, Ja Nagar (Chand) Bhatt Singh, Jharkh DMS Haridwar, Kham and other officers.

Jal Jeevan Mission in News

'Sense of ownership will change water usage pattern'

Indians in Punjab are likely to achieve the goal to get drinking water to every rural household by the next year. Bharat Jodo Jeevan mission director of Jal Jeevan Mission, Anshu Kumar, says that the mission is not just about providing water but also about creating a sense of ownership among the people.



THE INTERVIEW
Anshu Kumar, Director of Jal Jeevan Mission, says that the mission is not just about providing water but also about creating a sense of ownership among the people. He says that the mission is not just about providing water but also about creating a sense of ownership among the people.

The Union budget kept interests of the social sector close at heart

The Union budget for 2023-24 has been announced, and it has been widely appreciated for its focus on the social sector. The budget has allocated a significant amount of funds for various social welfare programs, including the Jal Jeevan Mission.



अभिनेता पांडे के सूखाग्रस्त गांव में पहुंचा पानी

Actor Pandey has visited a drought-affected village and distributed water to the people. He said that the Jal Jeevan Mission is working hard to provide water to every household in the country.



हरिभूमि

हरिभूमि is a leading Hindi newspaper that has been reporting on the progress of the Jal Jeevan Mission. It has highlighted the achievements of the mission in providing water to rural households.



UP makes much headway in providing tap water to rural homes

Uttar Pradesh has made significant progress in providing tap water to rural homes. The state government has launched several schemes to improve water supply infrastructure in rural areas.



EMPLOYMENT GENERATION: The Jal Jeevan Mission is also focusing on generating employment for the people in rural areas. It has launched several schemes to create jobs for the people in the water supply sector.

50 इंसिया से अधिक ग्रामीण परिवारों को जल कनेक्शन

Over 50 rural families have been provided with tap water connections. The Jal Jeevan Mission is working hard to provide water to every household in the country.



जल जीवन मिशन, प्रोफेसर ने पत्रकारों के लिए क्विज का हुआ है प्रश्न

Prof. [Name] has organized a quiz for journalists about the Jal Jeevan Mission. The quiz was held in a hall and was attended by many journalists.



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जल जीवन मिशन की निगरानी करेगा आईओटी

IoT will be used to monitor the progress of the Jal Jeevan Mission. The mission is working hard to provide water to every household in the country.



Jal Jeevan Mission

Har Ghar Jal



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