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

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *278
ANSWERED ON 06/08/2026

CONTAMINATED DRINKING WATER SOURCES

*278. SHRI BALWANT BASWANT WANKHADE:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) the number of habitations reported to have contaminated drinking water sources due to fluoride, arsenic, iron, salinity and heavy metals since 2023, year and State/UT-wise;

(b) whether the Government has assessed the number of rural and urban households receiving potable tap water meeting Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) drinking water standards since 2023, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of drinking water samples tested in laboratories and through Field Testing Kits (FTKs) since 2023, year and State/UT-wise; and

(d) whether the Government maintains data on the time taken between detection of contamination through FTKs and completion of remedial action and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI
(SHRI C R PATIL)

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

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. *278 answered on 06.08.2026 regarding "Contaminated Drinking Water Sources" asked by Shri Balwant Baswant Wankhade

(a) to (d) Drinking Water being a State subject, the responsibility of Planning, Designing, Approval, Implementation, Operation & Maintenance of drinking water supply schemes, including those under the Jal Jeevan Mission, is vested with State/UT Governments. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the States by providing financial, policy guidance and technical assistance.

The Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) – Har Ghar Jal, was launched in August 2019, in partnership with States/ UTs to make provision of potable tap water supply in adequate quantity, of prescribed quality and on regular & long-term basis to rural households. Under JJM, as per existing guidelines, Bureau of Indian Standards' BIS:10500 standards are adopted as benchmark for quality of water being supplied through the piped water supply schemes.

At the start of the Mission, only 3.24 crore (16.72%) rural households were reported to have tap water connection in the country. As on 18.07.2026, out of 19.36 crore rural households, around 15.89 crore (82.09%) rural households have been provided tap water connection.

Under JJM, while planning water supply schemes to provide tap water supply to households, priority is given to habitations affected by chemical contaminants. States/ UTs have been advised to plan and implement piped water supply schemes based on alternative safe water sources/ bulk water transfer for the villages with water quality issues. Moreover, any water supply scheme undertaken under JJM is approved after the recommendation of Source Finding Committee of the respective State Government, to the effect that the identified water source planned under the scheme, has sufficient yield for sustaining water supply as per required norm.

In consultation with various stakeholders 'Concise Handbook for Monitoring Water Quality of Piped Drinking Water Supply to Rural Households' was released in December 2024 for guidance to States/ UT's. This handbook recommended for a comprehensive testing of drinking water samples at various testing points such as source, treatment plant, storage and distribution points, and remedial action wherever necessary, to ensure that the water supplied to households is of prescribed quality (BIS:10500). The recommended remedial actions include the immediate closure of chemically contaminated water sources, notifying the result to the relevant authorities and affected communities, providing safe drinking water as per JJM guidelines (at least 8-10 lpcd) through a safe source or through alternate means immediately within 24 hrs till piped water supply is restored, implementing emergency treatment measures, actions such as cleaning of OHTs, check pipe line leakage, etc. within 7 days, testing all basic and area-specific chemical as well as bacteriological parameters, and, if found safe, restore water supply from a safe source in case of chemical contaminants. On the other hand, in case of bacterial contamination, immediate action (within 24 hrs) must be taken, which includes proper disinfection, intimate concern for authority and affected communities, and temporary arrangement to provide safe drinking water through tankers (8 -10 lpcd).

The State/ UT-wise details of numbers of drinking water samples tested during 2023-24, 2024-25, 2025-26 and 2026-27 are **annexed**.

Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has informed that Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) launched in the year 2015 in selected 500 cities and towns across the country was focused on development of basic infrastructure in the sectors of water supply, sewerage and septage management, etc. To expand the coverage, AMRUT 2.0 was launched in the year 2021 in all Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)/ cities, enabling the cities to become 'self-reliant' and 'water secure'. Through AMRUT and AMRUT 2.0, and in convergence with the States, about 270 lakh water tap connections have been provided in urban areas across the country.

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Annex

Annex referred in reply to part (c) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 278 answered on 06.08.2026

State-wise details of water quality testing reported by States/UTs

S. No.	State	FY 2023-24		FY 2024-25		FY 2025-26		FY 2026-27	
		No. of samples tested in laboratory	No. of samples tested using FTKs	No. of samples tested in laboratory	No. of samples tested using FTKs	No. of samples tested in laboratory	No. of samples tested using FTKs	No. of samples tested in laboratory	No. of samples tested using FTKs
1.	A&N Islands	984	351	1,172	160	2,723	1,552	666	92
2.	Andhra Pr.	6,99,999	4,64,831	6,86,179	2,76,342	7,15,401	3,56,507	2,03,602	1,36,400
3.	Arunachal Pr.	39,238	33,490	22,271	10,689	10,364	3,904	1,523	122
4.	Assam	2,97,405	12,14,852	2,70,466	8,37,769	2,05,120	4,24,494	61,276	86,996
5.	Bihar	1,60,783	49,736	2,74,547	1,412	1,36,626	29,557	46,153	24,262
6.	Chhattisgarh	1,23,175	2,97,229	1,60,891	2,03,657	1,01,593	1,11,981	30,333	39,353
7.	DDNH	-	3,060	-	178	-	-	-	-
8.	Goa	10,336	22	13,660	-	7,530	-	833	-
9.	Gujarat	1,53,057	2,92,444	71,204	4,25,718	3,12,531	2,80,206	1,26,567	33,172
10.	Haryana	69,702	37,996	60,757	16,896	44,717	252	19,130	6,366
11.	Himachal Pr.	2,20,428	1,47,982	2,41,458	1,30,389	2,75,154	2,78,346	72,519	30,463
12.	Jammu & Kashmir	2,53,364	34,793	2,66,547	2,129	3,10,370	33	98,899	83
13.	Jharkhand	2,14,431	7,85,488	2,18,562	6,99,655	2,10,621	2,85,324	74,109	4,47,843
14.	Karnataka	2,66,532	2,15,742	3,21,759	9,21,677	2,56,206	8,01,512	1,05,056	13,06,825
15.	Kerala	6,36,043	2,27,651	7,00,732	612	3,63,041	9,899	94,137	4,780
16.	Ladakh	7,706	1,809	10,229	623	8,325	462	672	13
17.	Lakshadweep	6,880	475	7,897	-	3,576	20	814	-
18.	Madhya Pr.	5,74,409	6,56,077	5,74,798	3,52,198	4,88,653	1,70,645	2,39,906	2,59,465
19.	Maharashtra	6,42,396	2,46,187	5,87,570	3,56,666	5,47,688	3,60,170	2,21,392	1,47,047
20.	Manipur	17,413	16,352	19,508	11,085	5,773	1,462	1,157	768
21.	Meghalaya	51,836	17,172	40,657	14,606	37,580	9,980	21,165	11,194
22.	Mizoram	29,224	7,381	21,908	3,377	7,788	1,198	2,628	181
23.	Nagaland	7,947	20,249	6,751	15,590	1,258	6,279	449	369

S. No.	State	FY 2023-24		FY 2024-25		FY 2025-26		FY 2026-27	
		No. of samples tested in laboratory	No. of samples tested using FTKs	No. of samples tested in laboratory	No. of samples tested using FTKs	No. of samples tested in laboratory	No. of samples tested using FTKs	No. of samples tested in laboratory	No. of samples tested using FTKs
24.	Odisha	2,60,445	4,02,332	2,72,406	2,49,298	2,42,555	3,82,149	91,098	54,142
25.	Puducherry	818	-	287	18	-	-	-	45
26.	Punjab	33,107	1,46,504	67,481	1,14,956	69,953	90,637	23,279	55,835
27.	Rajasthan	1,98,476	3,64,778	1,80,063	66,845	73,144	10,495	13,594	15,408
28.	Sikkim	15,527	9,566	17,297	5,803	8,436	49	3,460	581
29.	Tamil Nadu	8,48,706	9,12,785	9,07,742	4,40,081	9,43,022	47,997	3,53,094	1,80,077
30.	Telangana	2,91,673	1	2,85,183	-	2,78,446	-	89,247	16
31.	Tripura	50,701	61,371	82,287	52,494	55,538	20,593	18,976	5,977
32.	Uttar Pr.	6,23,246	35,89,028	0,67,899	38,34,685	8,25,798	10,26,956	1,78,830	6,20,567
33.	Uttarakhand	1,19,958	34,975	1,25,553	1,520	1,06,444	33	43,250	-
34.	West Bengal	5,74,096	5,61,487	6,82,526	3,37,058	4,74,910	2,74,735	91,110	24,998
Total		**75,00,041**	**1,08,54,196**	**82,68,247**	**93,84,186**	**71,30,884**	**49,87,427**	**23,28,924**	**34,93,440**

* As on date

Source: JJM-WQMIS