

Jal Jeevan Samvad

April | Volume 7 | Issue 4 | Year 2026



Har Ghar Jal
Jal Jeevan Mission

Building Partnership
Changing Lives

District/Village
Dialogues Series

Articles by DS, NJJM
and DC/DMs of 5 districts



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Minister of Jal Shakti on Jal Jeevan Mission



C R Patil

Minister of Jal Shakti

माननीय प्रधानमंत्री श्री *Narendra Modi* सर के नेतृत्व में संचालित जल जीवन मिशन ने बनारस के प्रत्येक परिवार तक स्वच्छ जल पहुँचाने की दिशा में ऐतिहासिक प्रगति सुनिश्चित की है। अब घर-घर नल से जल की उपलब्धता ने माताओं-बहनों के जीवन को सहज बनाया है, साथ ही स्वास्थ्य संबंधी चुनौतियों को भी कम किया है।

- Hon'ble Union Minister, Jal Shakti

Posted on X handle, 10th April, 2026



Minister of State, Jal Shakti on Jal Jeevan Mission



V. Somanna

Minister of State for Jal Shakti

Steered by the vision of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the agreement further strengthens Centre–State synergy in water resource conservation, efficient operations and maintenance, water quality assurance, and long-term water security.

- Hon'ble Minister of State, Jal Shakti

Posted on X handle, 30th April, 2026



Minister of State, Jal Shakti on Jal Jeevan Mission



Dr. Raj Bhushan Choudhary

Minister of State for Jal Shakti

What was once a daily struggle for millions is now a story of transformation. Under the Jal Jeevan Mission, 15.72+ crore rural households have gained access to tap water, improving health, dignity, and quality of life. From long walks for water to water at home, this is real change reaching every doorstep.

- Hon'ble Minister of State, Jal Shakti

Posted on X handle, 10th April, 2026





Foreword



As the Mission advances beyond infrastructure expansion, the emphasis continues to shift towards strengthening systems that ensure drinking water services remain reliable, equitable, and resilient over time and April reflects a deepening of this transition.

A key development during the month was the continued operationalisation of Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0 through the signing of MoU with States. These agreements, formalised in the presence of Hon'ble Union Ministers and Chief Ministers/ Lieutenant Governor, reaffirm a shared commitment to a Gram Panchayat-led, community-centred model of water governance.

April saw continued engagement through platforms such as the 7th District Collectors' Peyjal Samvad and the 6th Sujal Gram Samvad, which remain key channels for bridging policy and practice. These forums brought forward district experiences and community perspectives, highlighting the role of district administrations in monitoring service delivery, resolving operational issues, and ensuring convergence. They also reinforced that sustainability depends on community ownership, empowered Gram Panchayats, and sustained operations and maintenance.

Focused review meetings with State/UTs, and the North-Eastern region further strengthened the implementation framework. Regular reviews and closer coordination across levels are increasingly shaping the Mission's transition from programme implementation to service governance.

The global relevance of India's experience was also evident during the month. At the World Bank Group–IMF Spring Meetings, the Mission was presented as a significant example of how access to safe drinking water can be advanced through strong political commitment, community participation, and technology-enabled transparency. The discussions reinforced that investments in water are not only essential for service delivery but are also fundamental to improved public health, human development, and economic productivity.

At the field level, continued visits by senior officials to districts provided valuable insights into on-ground realities, enabling closer assessment of system performance and strengthening feedback loops between implementation and policy.

Overall, April developments reflect a clear shift, JJM is moving towards a system driven by sustainability, institutional ownership, and community participation. The focus is no longer on asset creation, but on ensuring reliable, everyday service delivery for every household.

Ashok K. K. Meena
Secretary,

Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation



Note from the desk of

Additional Secretary & Mission Director...



Over the past few months, as Jal Jeevan Mission moves into its next phase, the focus has steadily shifted towards improving service delivery and ensuring long term sustainability of rural drinking water systems. Now, our priority is to ensure water supply is regular, reliable, and community is empowered and skilled to maintain the water supply assets.

As part of our commitment towards reform linked changes, this month MoUs have been signed with Uttarakhand, Karnataka and Tripura. These MoUs promote a Gram Panchayat led and community centred model of rural water governance under Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0.

During the month, the 7th District Collectors' Peyjal Samvad served as an important platform to hear directly from the field. Five districts shared their progress and experiences under JJM and SBM-G. These discussions offered useful insights into what is working well and how such practices can be scaled across other regions.

A key takeaway was the critical role of District Collectors in driving the next phase. Regular district-level reviews, close tracking of data, and focused attention on service assessment, scheme handover, strengthening technical teams, and greywater management will be essential. This issue of samvad captures the good efforts presented during the samvad.

At the grassroots level, Sujal Gram Samvad continues to reinforce the importance of community participation. Sustaining water supply systems depends on local ownership, regular maintenance, and active involvement of Gram Panchayats.

Discussions across districts also highlighted several innovative approaches. Going forward, stronger district leadership, backed by effective use of data and regular monitoring, will be central to maintaining momentum. Priority areas include Jal Seva Aankalan, Jal Arpan, strengthening District Technical Units (DTUs), and improving greywater management practices.

An orientation session was also held with all States and Union Territories to review preparedness for JJM 2.0. The focus was on improving financial processes, ensuring accurate data entry, and strengthening digital systems. Enhancements in the Sujalam Bharat App and project monitoring tools are expected to support better tracking and timely decision-making.

At the core of these efforts is a simple principle: “जल बचेगा, तो जल रहेगा और अगर जल रहेगा तो जल मिलेगा,” reminding us that responsible use today ensures water security for tomorrow.

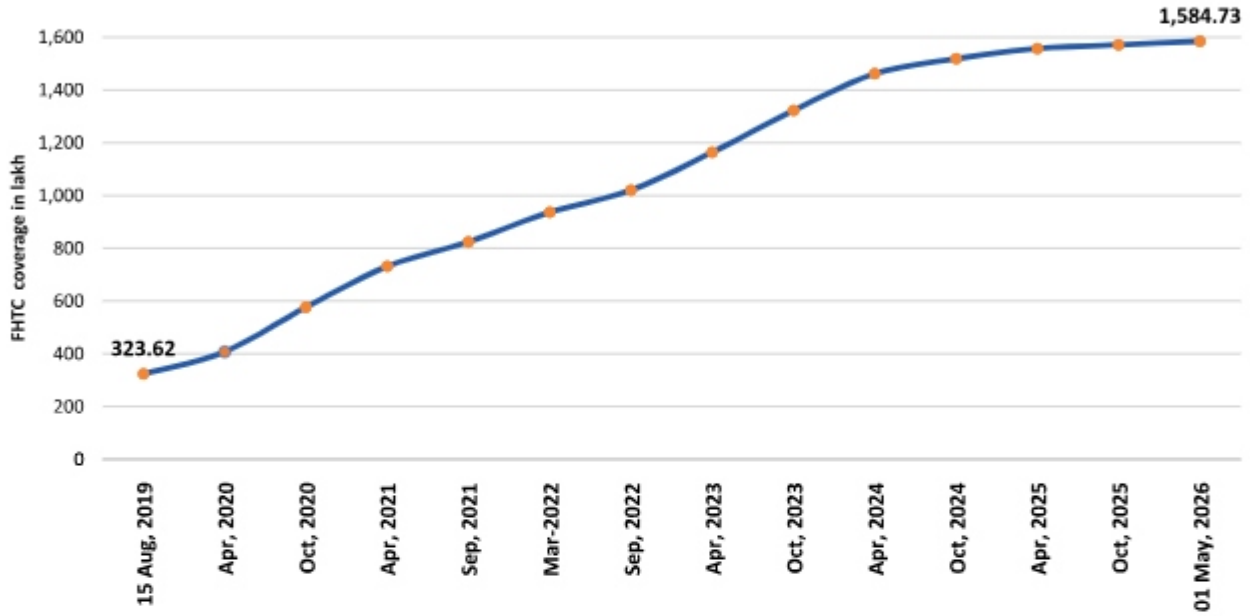
Kamal Kishore Soan

Additional Secretary & Mission Director (NJJM)
Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation

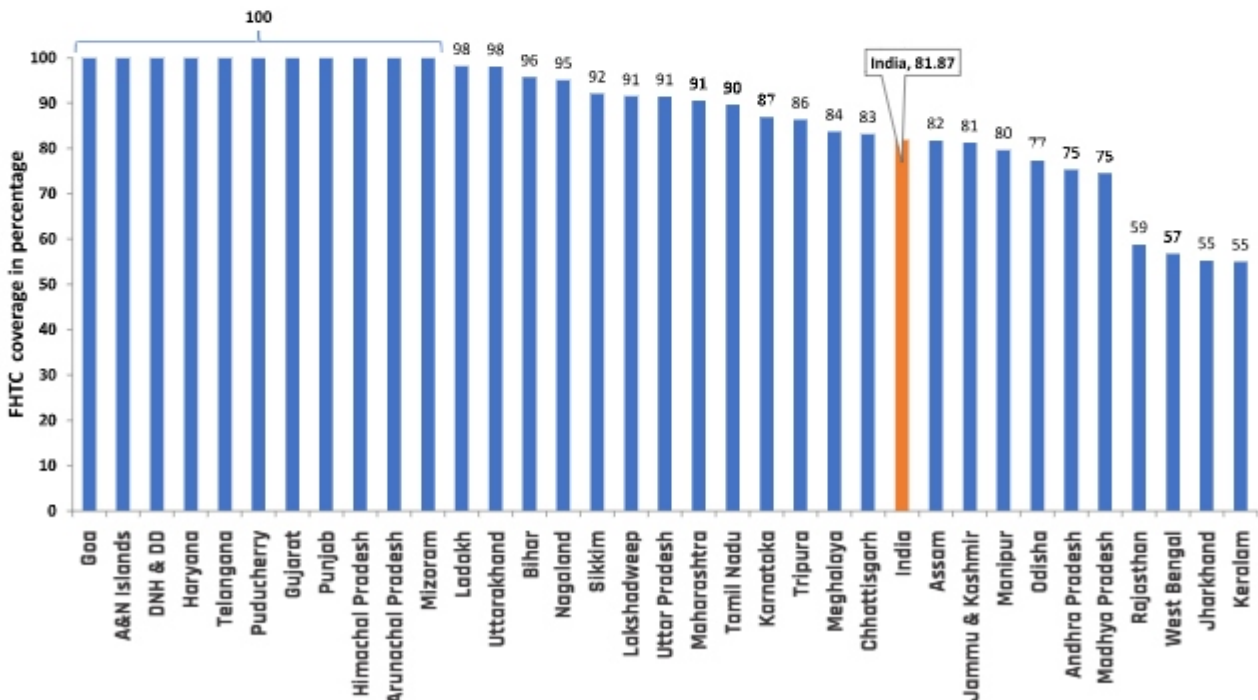




Progressive coverage - Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) (as on 30.04.2026)



Comparative FHTC coverage status of States/ UTs (as on 30.04.2026)



- Graphical representation by Arpan De Sarkar, NPMU-NJM



As on 30th April, 2026

Source: JIM-IMIS

India | Status of tap water supply in rural homes



Households provided with tap water connection since launch of the Mission

12,61,10,618 (78.23%)

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

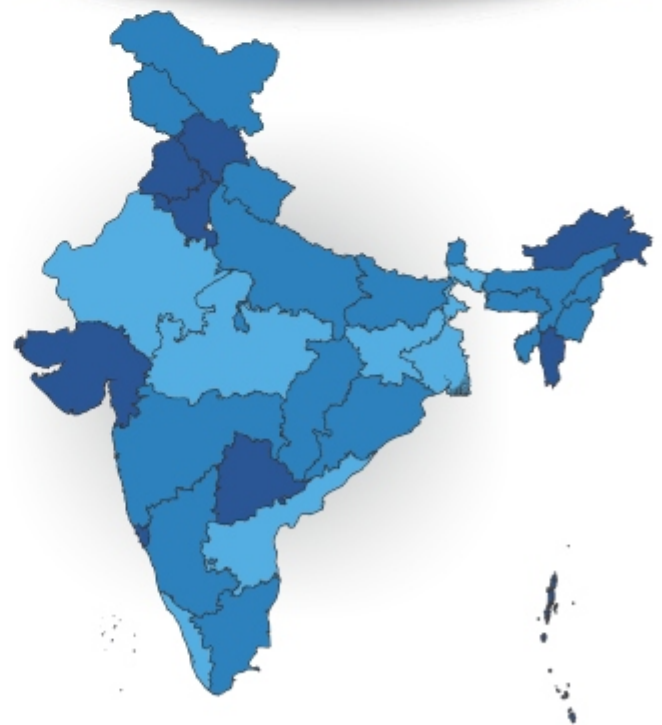
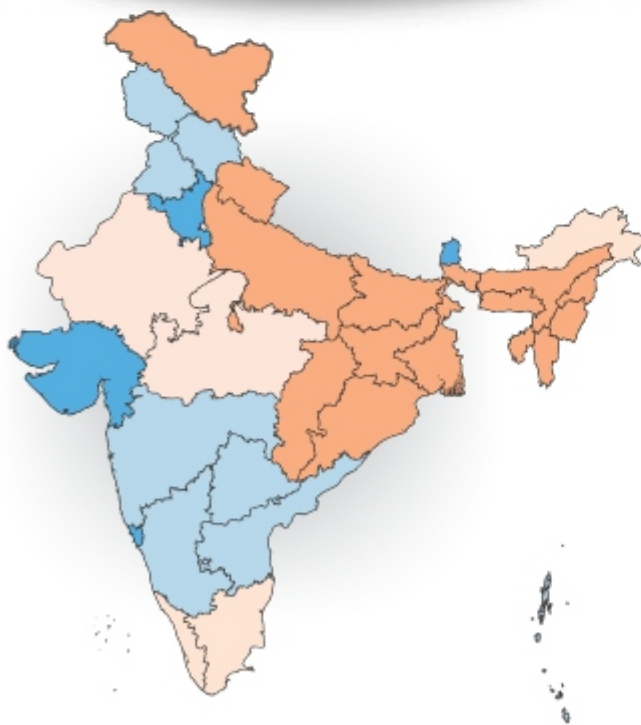
100% FHTC States/ UTs

Goa, A & N Islands, Puducherry, D&NH and D&D, Arunachal Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Telangana, Mizoram, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat



As on 15th August, 2019

As on 30th April, 2026



0 to <10% 10% to <25% 25% to <50% 50% to <75% 75% to <100% 100%





6th Sujal Gram Samvad: Strengthening Community Leadership for Water Security

- Lopamudra Panda, NPMU-NJJM

Water is not merely a resource it is life itself. It sustains individuals, families, communities, livestock, agriculture, and the environment as a whole. This simple yet profound truth framed the tone of the 6th Sujal Gram Samvad, organised by the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS), Ministry of Jal Shakti, on 22nd April 2026. Held in virtual mode and chaired by the Hon'ble Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Shri C.R. Patil, the Samvad brought together voices from the grassroots with policymakers and administrators,

reaffirming that India's journey towards water security must be rooted in discipline, community leadership, and shared responsibility.

In his address, Shri C.R. Patil reminded participants that water insecurity is no longer a distant concern, it is a lived reality for many regions across the country. Irregular rainfall patterns, declining water sources, and rising demand all point to a single imperative: water conservation, careful use, and community vigilance can no longer be optional. He emphasised that if

the natural water cycle is disrupted, the fabric of life itself becomes fragile, an undeniable truth that demands collective action.

The Hon'ble Minister underscored the impact of the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), conceptualised under the visionary leadership of the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. The Mission's objective to provide functional household tap connections to every rural home has gone far beyond pipelines and overhead tanks. It has reshaped daily life in villages across India.



Figure 1: Address by Union Minister of Jal Shakti in 6th SGS | Source: NJJM



Figure 2: Communities joined digitally for 6th SGS | Source: N.JJM

Shri Patil highlighted a transformative statistic of research study: nearly 9 crore women have been relieved of the daily burden of fetching water from distant sources, saving an estimated 5.5 crore hours every day. These hours are now being reinvested in education, family care, livelihood activities, and community engagement. What once symbolised drudgery has been converted into opportunity.

Yet, he cautioned against complacency. “A scheme does not end when construction is completed,” he said. Real success lies in sustained operation, regular maintenance, water quality assurance, and community ownership. Government systems may create the foundation, but it is people of villages, Panchayats, who ensure longevity.

The Sujal Gram Samvad series was conceptualised as a dialogue, not a monologue. Its multilingual format

allows communities to speak in their mother tongues, ensuring authenticity, clarity, and inclusiveness. The sixth edition exemplified this philosophy, with participation from 10 Gram Panchayats across 8 States and 2 Union Territories, using languages such as Ladakhi, Rajasthani, Mizo, Marathi, Telugu, Kannada, Bengali, Ho, and Hindi.

In his opening remarks, Shri Ashok K. K. Meena, Secretary, DDWS welcomed the participants and highlighted that presently lot of Gram Panchayats are continuously working on maintaining a regular water supply, ensuring water quality, raising community awareness, managing expenses, resolving complaints, and ensuring the correct use of greywater along with the protection of water sources. Marking this progress under JJM, he mentioned that JJM 2.0 has shifted emphasis from mere infrastructure like pipes and tanks to sustainable delivery of safe, clean

water to every household on a regular basis.

He urged for local ownership and community participation ahead of Panchayati Raj Day to be celebrated on April 24th, with Gram Panchayat representatives called upon to fully manage water systems. He mentioned that while the foundation is laid by the government, success is attributed to Jan Bhagidari, constant 24/7 monitoring of water schemes and the responsibility is shared by villagers rather than officials. He also said that GPs are tasked with ensuring regular supply, water quality testing, and greywater management; and district administrations are expected to offer technical and managerial support for long-term effectiveness across generations.

Samvad created space for honest reflection on behavioural challenges, governance gaps, and field-level constraints reinforcing that schemes



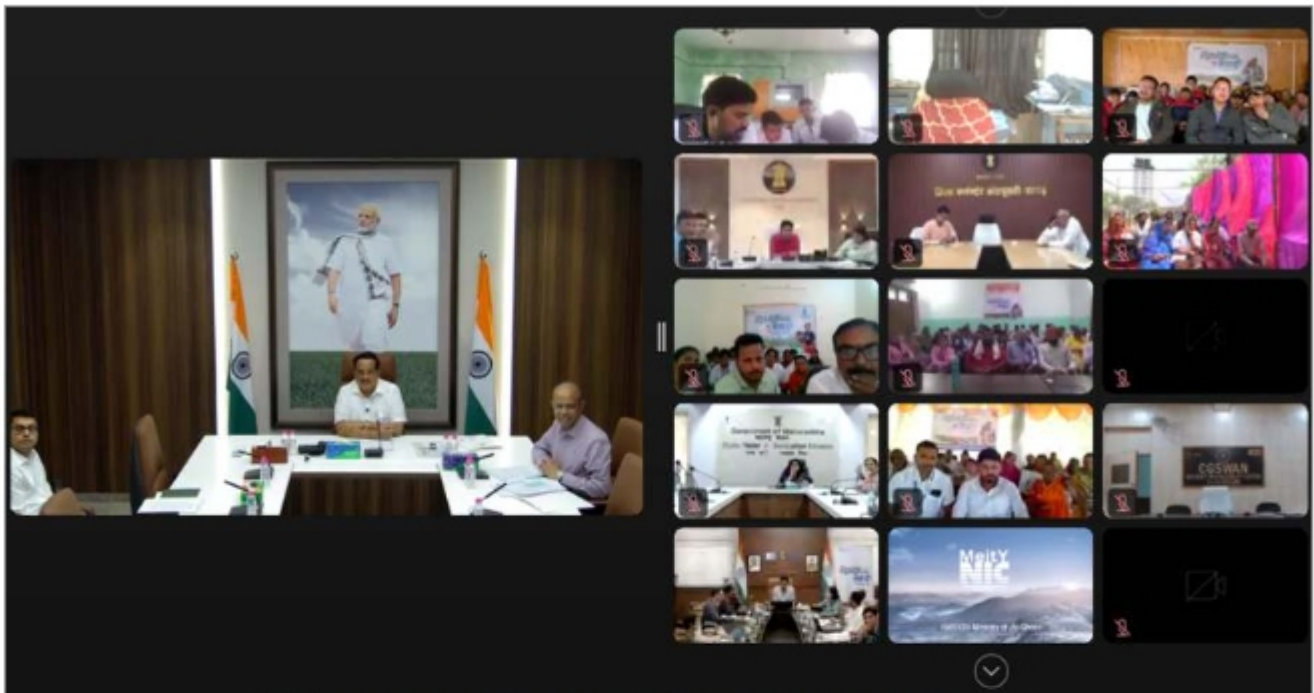


Figure 3: Address by Union Minister of Jal Shakti & Secretary, DDWS in 6th SGS | Source: NJJM

alone cannot solve social and environmental problems unless matched with accountability, discipline, and community participation.

Throughout the Samvad, a consistent message emerged: challenges are inevitable, but weak discipline, delayed response, and poor last-mile engagement exacerbate them. Officers were encouraged to remain field-oriented, punctual, empathetic, and action-driven. Appreciation, it was stressed, must always be

followed by corrective action and accountability.

In his concluding remarks, Shri Kamal Kishore Soan urged Gram Panchayats to institutionalise DWSSM meetings, strengthen O&M practices, and replicate community-led models across sectors through structured training and capacity building.

The programme, moderated by Smt. Ankita Chakravarty, DS-NJJM, concluded with renewed commitment to people-centric governance,

empowered Panchayats, and sustainable water security.

The 6th Sujal Gram Samvad stood as a reminder that while infrastructure enables access, behaviour, discipline, and ownership ensure continuity. As articulated by the Hon'ble Union Minister, water security is a shared responsibility—one that demands seriousness, vigilance, and collective resolve. When communities lead and institutions support, *Har Ghar Jal* becomes not just a target achieved, but a promise sustained for generations.

Jammu & Kashmir



GP Lower Bhalwal, District Jammu, J&K

- Access to Tap Water as a Life Changing Intervention
- Gravity Based Sustainability Model
- O&M through Community Contribution
- Transition towards GP led Management





The Samvad began with representatives from Village Asserwan, GP Lower Bhalwal, District Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir. The village members men-

tioned that after Jal Jeevan Mission they were able to get clean drinking water from their taps, which was earlier a dream for them. They highlighted that JJM has changed their lives as they previously relied on handpumps and private water tankers.

The Mission director highlighted that tap water is supplied in the GP through gravity-based retrofitting scheme. He highlighted that PHED collects a total of ₹1,000 from each household per year for O&M implementation at the village level, this will be transferred to GP once the O&M policy is notified.

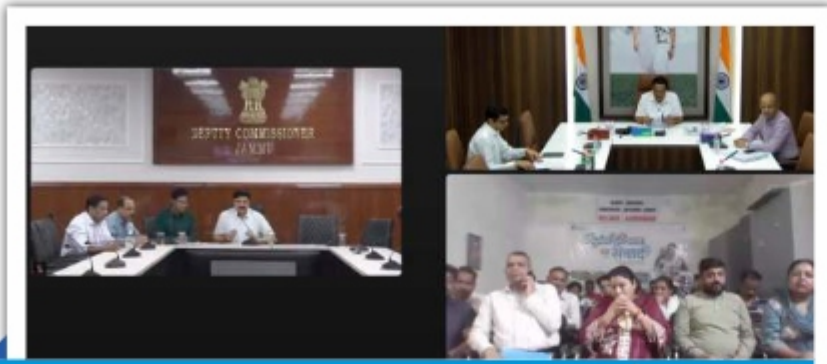


Figure 4: Panchayat representatives & district commissioner samvad in 6th SGS | Source: NJJM

Maharashtra



GP Dhangarwadi, District Nanded, Maharashtra



- ◆ User Charges for Sustainability
- ◆ Women involved in livelihood as time saved
- ◆ Technology enabled monitoring
- ◆ Regular DWSM meeting

Union Minister Shri C.R Patil started the interaction with the gram panchayat members in Marathi. A lively interaction took place with the minister and the community members, Sarpanch on user collection

charges, water quality testing, rainwater harvesting and FTKs. They stated that ₹750 annual user charges are collected per connection to manage maintenance such as pipeline repairs and that regular village-level meetings are conducted. District Collector, Nanded highlighted that DWSM meetings are held every month. He noted that household tap water access has enabled many women to take up sericulture with the time saved. He also informed that a Remote Monitoring System is being implemented in 16 villages for real-time monitoring, predictive maintenance, and leakage detection. While pointing out high electricity costs as a challenge, he shared that solar systems are being introduced to improve sustainability.

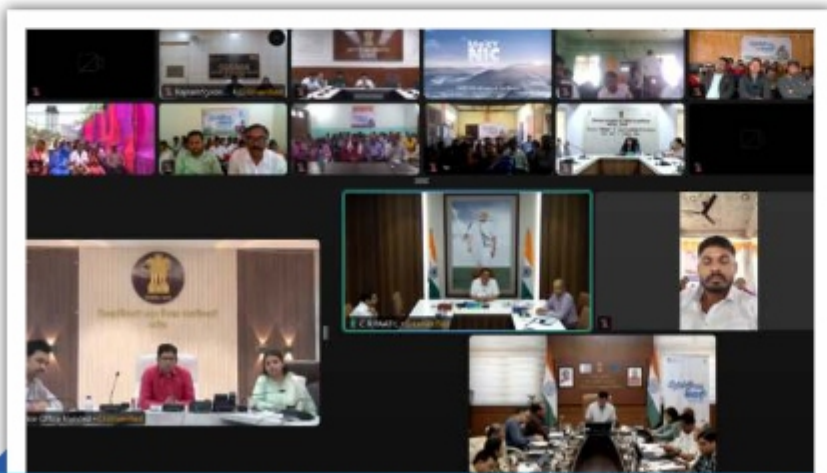


Figure 5: Panchayat representatives & district commissioner samvad in 6th SGS | Source: NJJM



Ladakh



GP Matho, District Leh, Ladakh



- 💧 Spring-based water supply system
- 💧 National recognition for unique water supply technology
- 💧 Regular water quality monitoring
- 💧 Community ownership

Village members and community representatives highlighted community-led sustainability efforts that ensure long-term water security in challenging terrain. They said that Matho is a unique Gram Panchayat because of its spring-based water supply and drip water management approach. The

representative informed that the village has achieved 100% household tap water coverage and the water supplied is clean and safe, with quality tested three to four times a year using Field Test Kits. The village's spring-based supply and unique drip water model have already received national-level recognition. He added that Panchayat is preparing to introduce a user charge system for maintenance and is currently working on finalizing the process.

While interacting with the Water Sanitation Committee Chairman and the community members from Matho Gram Panchayat, AS &MD, National Jal Jeevan Mission Shri Kamal Kishore Soan praised the GP for its unique technology. He also appreciated the GP for its equal participation and community role resulting to 70 lpcd water in households.

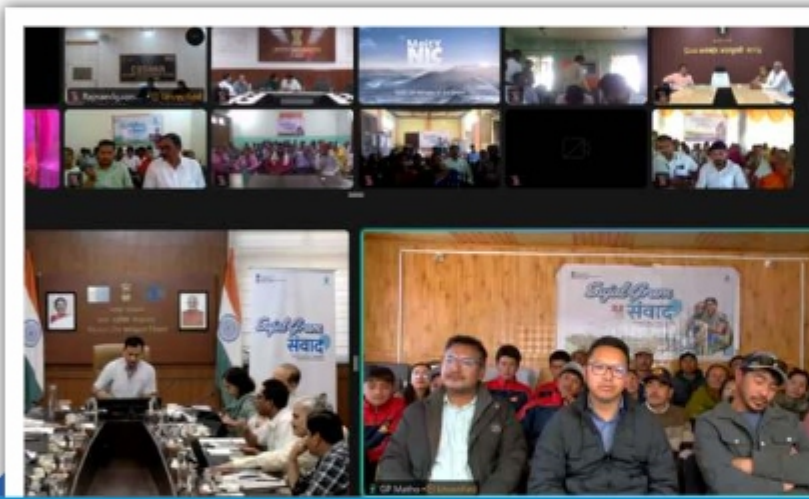


Figure 6: Panchayat representatives samvad in 6th SGS | Source: NJJM

Rajasthan



GP Hoda, District Bhilwara, Rajasthan



- 💧 Dovetailing for O&M
- 💧 Har Ghar Jal in a Water Stressed Region
- 💧 Active Pani samiti
- 💧 Regular water quality monitoring

The Sarpanch of Hoda panchayat interacted in Rajasthani language and told DDWS officers that JJM has had a positive impact in the water-scarce state. He noted that although Rajasthan is an arid region with water issues,

every household in their Gram Panchayat now has tap water and proper pipeline connectivity under PM



Modi's Har Ghar Jal vision. He described it as a transformative change: women no longer struggle to carry water from far places, the Pani Samiti is working continuously and progressively, FTK testing is done regularly, and Gram Sabha meetings are held routinely.

Mission Director, Rajasthan informed that the model O&M policy is in the final stages of notification, under which user charges will be collected to

support the sustainability of water supply systems. However, an amount of ₹18,000 crore has been earmarked under the Finance Commission grants to support O&M activities.



Figure 7: Panchayat representatives samvad in 6th SGS | Source: N.JJM

Mizoram



GP Hmawngkawn, District Serchhip, Mizoram

- Active VWSC, ensures regular water supply
- Collective responsibility for sustainability
- Source protection by community
- Water reliability despite terrain challenges



Representatives from Gram Panchayat Hmawngkawn in Serchhip district, Mizoram, shared their experiences during the Samvad in the Mizo language, highlighting the strong role of community participation in sustaining rural water systems. The Sarpanch noted that despite the village's challenging hilly terrain and recurring seasonal water shortages in the past, the situation has seen a significant turnaround under the JJM. Through the active functioning of dedicated VWSCs, the Gram Panchayat has been able to ensure reliable tap water supply to all households,

reflecting the effectiveness of locally driven planning and supervision.

The Sarpanch further emphasised that sustainability has been achieved through collective responsibility and disciplined practices at the village level. Households contribute user charges for



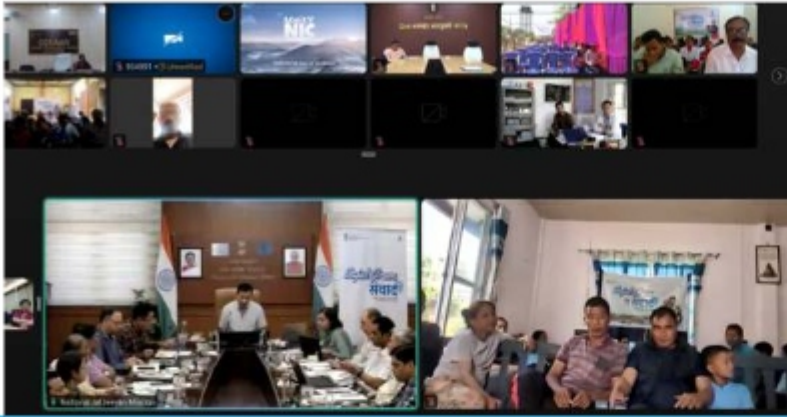


Figure 8: Panchayat representatives samvad in 6th SGS | Source: NJJM

operation and maintenance, ensuring financial support for the system, while regular water quality testing is carried out to maintain safety standards. Community members also actively protect local water sources such as springs and streams, recognising their long-term importance. These combined efforts have enabled the village to overcome earlier seasonal constraints and establish a dependable water supply system, demonstrating how strong community ownership can successfully address geographical and climatic challenges.

Telangana



GP Boravelly, District Jogulamba Gadwal, Telangana



- Mitigated Fluoride contamination
- Handed over of water supply assets through Jal Arpan
- Jal Seva Aankalan done & DTU established
- Active women participation

Representatives from GP Boravelly in Jogulamba Gadwal district, Telangana, interacted in Telugu and said, how VWSCs are spearheading system monitoring and management under JJM. They highlighted that full tap water coverage has been achieved across Gram Panchayat, ending past

water affected by high Fluoride contamination. With Jal Jeevan Mission & Mission Bhagiratha, regular chlorination ensures safe, potable water of improved quality for the community. Active VWSC, including six women members, ensure strong participation and representation. They hold regular meetings to review supply, maintenance, and quality issues, and have also successfully organized Jal Arpan Diwas to promote community ownership and formal handover of water supply systems at the village level.

The district administrator mentioned that under Mission Bhagiratha, the State programme ensures a water supply of 100 litres per capita per day (LPCD) to households. In the district the GP's have a 100% coverage under Jal Seva Aankalan and DTUs have been successfully established.



Figure 9: Panchayat representatives samvad in 6th SGS | Source: NJJM

Tripura



GP Kalshimura, District Sepahijala, Tripura

- 💧 Regular water quality tests by Jal Sakhis
- 💧 Ease of living for women reducing water woes
- 💧 Tap water supply in schools and institutions



Progress under Jal Jeevan Mission was elucidated by representatives from GP Kalshimura in Sepahijala district, Tripura, in their local language Bengali. Villagers shared that under Jal Jeevan Mission, tap water has now

reached every household in the village. Earlier, before the Mission, people had to face many hardships in collecting water. Women had to carry water on their heads and from distant sources. Now, with water being supplied to homes, the village receives an adequate quantity of water, and the earlier difficulties have reduced significantly. Jal Sakhis regularly tests the water quality using FTKs.

During the interaction, a student named Rohan Abhata from Class 10 said that both his house and school now have access to tap water. Earlier, water had to be brought from far away, but now life has become easier because water is available at home.



Figure 10: Panchayat representatives samvad in 6th SGS | Source: NJJM

Jharkhand



GP Aruva, District Seraikela, Jharkhand

- 💧 Regular user charge collection for O&M
- 💧 Reliable quality borewell based water supply
- 💧 Local employment as pump operator
- 💧 Jal Sahiyas, Anganwadi workers, and SHGs actively tests water quality.



The people of Aruva GP interacted in Ho & Hindi with DDWS officials. The representative shared that under JJM, water supply systems have been established in the village with a borewell as the primary source. Earlier, the community depended on traditional sources such as wells, ponds, and *jhiria*, which were often unreliable and required significant effort to access. Each household contributes ₹1 per day as user charge, approximately

₹5,000 has been collected at the Panchayat level so far. Out of this ₹1,000 per month is provided to the pump operator, who is responsible for operating and maintaining the water supply system.





Figure 11: Panchayat representatives samvad in 6th SGS | Source: NJJM

The representative also highlighted the role of Jal Sahia in community coordination and awareness. Additionally, members of the anganwadi worker, Self Help Group have been trained in the use of Field Test Kits (FTK) and are actively involved in regular water quality testing to ensure safe drinking water.

Karnataka



GP Mohiseti, District Belagavi, Karnataka



- Skilled Nal Jal Mitra
- User charge collected for O&M
- Transparent financial management
- Strong community ownership

Representatives from Gram Panchayat Mohiseti in Belagavi district, Karnataka, interacted with DDWS officials in Kannada, sharing their experiences on community-led financial management under the Jal Jeevan Mission. Village members highlighted the successful implementation of a voluntary billing system, under which households willingly contribute ₹80 each towards the operation and maintenance of the water supply system. This model, they noted, has encouraged collective ownership while ensuring that routine repairs and maintenance activities are carried out without disruption.

The community further shared that part of the collected funds is used to provide a monthly remuneration of ₹15,000 to the Pump Operator, who

has been trained under the Nal Jal Mitra Programme. This has helped in building a skilled local workforce while ensuring accountability at the village level. Transparent utilisation of user contributions and high acceptance of the payment system among residents were highlighted as key strengths, reinforcing financial discipline and contributing to the long-term sustainability of water services in the Gram Panchayat.



Figure 12: Panchayat representatives samvad in 6th SGS | Source: NJJM

Chhattisgarh



GP Bhatguna, District Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh

- 💧 24/7 Safe Water Supply
- 💧 Regular Testing Regime
- 💧 Digital User Charge Collection
- 💧 Focus on Sustainability



During the Samvad, the final interaction concluded with GP Bhatguna, Rajnandgaon district, Chhattisgarh. The Sarpanch along with the village committee members, Anganwadi workers interacted with the officials.



Figure 13: Panchayat representatives samvad in 6th SGS | Source: NJJM

They mentioned that after JJM the village avails good quality water 24/7 and quarterly water testing is carried out on regular basis. The Jal Bahinies tests water quality using FTKs four times a year. The GP collects ₹80 per household as user charge. District Collector, Rajnandgaon mentioned that along with Jal Sahiyas the district has Jal Yodhas for proper JJM implementation and functioning all along the district. He also mentioned that user charges are collected based on the population level of the villages in digital manner with QR code payment and tracking, enabling no corruption under JJM. He also emphasized water sustainability, source sustainability, water rejuvenation and greywater management.



Reform-Linked MoUs Signed with Uttarakhand, Karnataka, and Tripura under Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0

- Lopamudra Panda, NPMU-NJJM

In a significant step toward strengthening rural water governance and enhancing service delivery, reform-linked Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) 2.0 were signed on 29 April 2026 with the states of Uttarakhand, Karnataka, and Tripura. The signing follows the approval of Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0 by the Union Cabinet on 10 March 2026 and reflects a renewed commitment between the Centre and the states to ensure sustainable and equitable access to drinking water in rural India.

These MoUs underscore the principles of cooperative federalism, where the Centre and states work in

close coordination to achieve shared development goals. By formalizing reform commitments, the agreements aim to build accountable systems, strengthen community participation, and ensure long-term sustainability of rural water supply schemes.

A Community-Centric Approach to Rural Water Governance

At the core of these reform-linked MoUs is a shift toward a Gram Panchayat-led, service-oriented, and community-driven model of rural water governance. This approach aligns with the broader vision of Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0, which not only

focuses on infrastructure creation but also emphasizes sustainable service delivery and community ownership.

The MoUs aim to ensure that every rural household has access to safe drinking water of adequate quantity and prescribed quality on a regular and reliable basis. This objective is to be achieved through strengthened community participation—referred to as *Jan Bhagidari*—and structural reforms that support efficient operation and maintenance (O&M) of water supply systems.

By empowering local institutions and communities, the initiative seeks to improve service delivery while also enhancing accountability. Over time,



Figure 1c: Presence of MoJS, MoS, Secretary, DDWS & senior officials during MoU | Source: NJJM

these efforts are expected to raise the standard of living in rural areas, promote public health, and ensure long-term water security. Importantly, they also contribute to the broader national vision of *Viksit Bharat @2047*, which envisions inclusive and sustainable development across sectors.

Signing Ceremony and Participation

The MoUs were signed during separate scheduled meetings held in the presence of the Hon'ble Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Shri C.R. Patil, and Hon'ble Minister of State, Shri V. Somanna. The Chief Ministers of Uttarakhand, Karnataka, and Tripura joined the proceedings virtually according to their respective time slots, reflecting the collaborative and flexible nature of the engagement.

Senior officials from both the Centre and the states participated in the signing process, ensuring that the agreements are backed by administrative commitment.



Figure 15: Chief Minister, Uttarakhand sharing status and commitment | Source: NJJM

MoU with Uttarakhand

The MoU with Uttarakhand was signed in the virtual presence of Chief Minister Shri Pushkar Singh Dhama, along with senior officials from the state government. These included Shri Ranveer Singh Chauhan, Secretary, Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation; Shri Rohit Meena, Mission Director, JJM; Shri D.K. Singh, Chief General Manager,

Uttarakhand Jal Nigam; Shri Sanjay Singh, Chief Engineer; and Shri Anant Singh Saini, Executive Engineer, State Water and Sanitation Mission (SWSM).

In addition, Shri Sunil Tiwari, Superintendent Engineer, SWSM, and Shri Aman Joshi, PM Technical, SWSM, attended the event physically at the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS).



Figure 16: Exchange of MoU with Uttarakhand | Source: NJJM





The MoU was formally signed between Smt. Swati Meena Naik, Joint Secretary (Water), DDWS, and Shri Ranveer Singh Chauhan. Shri Ajay Mishra, Resident Commissioner of Uttarakhand, was present at DDWS for the exchange of the document.

Chief Minister Shri Pushkar Singh Dhama highlighted Uttarakhand's notable achievement of 98% coverage under the Jal Jeevan Mission, with 14.20 lakh out of 14.48 lakh rural households already receiving functional household tap connections.

He emphasized the strong cooperation between the state and the Central Government, noting that such partnerships have been instrumental in achieving these milestones. Expressing gratitude to Union Minister Shri C.R. Patil for his support and guidance, he stated that the signing of the MoU would further accelerate ongoing efforts and benefit more than 14 lakh rural families in the state.

Shri Dhama also spoke about the unique challenges posed by Uttarakhand's mountainous terrain, including landslides, natural disasters, and difficult accessibility. To address these issues, the state has been adopting an integrated approach that balances environmental conservation with development. Initiatives such as digital monitoring, glacier research, slope stabilization, plantation drives, and public awareness campaigns are part of this strategy.

He also highlighted the role of the Spring and River Rejuvenation Authority (SARRA), under which more than 6,500 water sources have been treated in the past year. Additionally, around 3.5 million cubic meters of rainwater have been harvested, and nearly 1,000 villages have been revitalized under the Jal Shakti Abhiyan.

Reaffirming the state's commitment, the Chief Minister assured that Uttarakhand would fully adhere to the provisions of the MoU, focusing

on quality execution, institutional strengthening, and long-term sustainability of rural water systems.

MoU with Karnataka

The MoU with Karnataka was signed in the virtual presence of Chief Minister Shri Siddaramaiah. Other notable participants included Shri Priyank Kharge, Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development & Panchayati Raj and IT & BT; Shri Anjum Parwez, Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister; Shri Ritesh Kumar Singh, Additional Chief Secretary (Finance); and Shri D. Randeep, Commissioner, Rural Drinking Water and Sanitation Department, along with other senior officials.

The agreement was signed between Smt. Swati Meena Naik and Shri Sameer Shukla, Secretary, Rural Development & Panchayat Raj.

Chief Minister Shri Siddaramaiah highlighted that Karnataka has achieved 87% coverage under the Jal Jeevan Mission, despite facing



Figure 17: Exchange of MoU with Karnataka | Source: N.J.M



Figure 18: Chief Minister, Karnataka sharing status and commitment | Source: NJJM

significant structural water stress challenges as one of the country's more arid regions.

He emphasized that the state has adopted a sustainability-driven approach to ensure that every household receives safe and reliable drinking water. Particular focus has

been placed on maintaining high quality standards during implementation and ensuring long-term viability of water systems.

The Chief Minister also drew attention to the need for timely release of pending funds, emphasizing that financial support is crucial for

sustaining momentum and completing the mission within the stipulated timeframe. He reaffirmed the state's commitment to achieving the targets of Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0 in a time-bound manner.

Notably, Karnataka is among the early adopters of a comprehensive O&M policy under JJM 2.0. The state has also strengthened Village Water and Sanitation Committees, ensuring gender-balanced participation and greater inclusivity in decision-making processes.

MoU with Tripura

The MoU with Tripura was signed in the virtual presence of Chief Minister Prof. (Dr.) Manik Saha, along with Shri Abhishek Singh, Secretary, Public Works Department (PWD), and Shri Anup Kumar Das, Chief Engineer, PWD.

The agreement was signed between Smt. Swati Meena Naik and Shri Abhishek Singh and was exchanged



Figure 19: Exchange of MoU with Tripura | Source: NJJM





Figure 20: Chief Minister, Tripura sharing status and commitment | Source: N.JJM

by Smt. Brammeet Kaur, Resident Commissioner of Tripura.

Chief Minister Prof. (Dr.) Manik Saha highlighted the remarkable progress made by Tripura under the Jal Jeevan Mission, noting that the state's coverage has increased from just 3% at the inception of the mission in 2019 to 86% currently.

He pointed out that Jal Seva Aankalan has already been completed in 151 Gram Panchayats, providing valuable insights into service delivery and performance. Additionally, District Technical Units (DTUs) have been established across all eight districts, serving as a strong institutional backbone for water and sanitation initiatives.

The Chief Minister stated that the state is actively working on implementing O&M policies in line with JJM 2.0 guidelines, with full rollout expected by May 2026. He reaffirmed Tripura's commitment to ensuring safe, sustainable, and universal access to tap water for all households.

Key Messages from the Union Minister

Addressing the gathering, **Union**

Minister of Jal Shakti, Shri C.R. Patil, reiterated that under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the Jal Jeevan Mission has evolved into a transformative, people-centric initiative. He noted that the mission has significantly improved access to

drinking water in rural areas while also enhancing dignity, health, and empowerment especially for women.

Highlighting the mission's timeline, he said that although the original deadline was May 2024, it has now been extended to December 2028. This extension will enable the country to achieve universal tap water coverage and strengthen sanitation infrastructure across all regions.

Shri Patil urged all three states to continue their efforts and place a strong emphasis on operation and maintenance of rural water supply systems at the Gram Panchayat level. He stressed that sustainable service delivery requires not just infrastructure, but also effective management and community ownership.

He acknowledged Uttarakhand's impressive 98% coverage and encouraged the state to maintain its



Figure 20: Address by MoJS to states | Source: N.JJM



Figure 21: Remark by Secretary, DDWS | Source: NJJM

momentum. For Karnataka, he emphasized the need for efficient implementation and proactive resolution of water-related challenges. With regard to Tripura, he commended the progress under the Har Ghar Jal scheme and advised the state to prioritize certification and reporting for the remaining villages.

The Minister also emphasized key reform priorities, including proper implementation of O&M policies, accurate and timely data entry on the JJM dashboard, creation of Sujal Gaon IDs, establishment of DTUs, and regular district-level review meetings. He further noted that states would need to bear the costs associated with O&M and retrofitting to ensure system sustainability.

Concluding his address, Shri Patil stated that the Jal Jeevan Mission is more than just a government scheme—it is a life-changing initiative that is improving quality of life across rural India. He stressed the importance of ensuring continuous

water supply in every village and addressing public grievances promptly.

Role of the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation

Senior officials from the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS), including Shri Ashok K.K. Meena, Secretary, DDWS, and Shri Kamal Kishore Soan, Additional Secretary & Mission Director, National Jal Jeevan Mission, were present during the MoU signing.

In his remarks, Shri Ashok K.K. Meena described the MoUs as a shared commitment between the Centre and the states to provide safe, reliable, and sustainable drinking water to every household in rural India.

He emphasized the critical role of Gram Panchayats, which are now entrusted with the responsibility of managing village water supply

systems and collecting user charges to ensure long-term sustainability. He also called on district administrations to conduct regular meetings of the District Water and Sanitation Mission (DWSM) to finalize and certify village-level water supply plans.

Conclusion

The signing of reform-linked MoUs with Uttarakhand, Karnataka, and Tripura marks an important milestone in the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0. By focusing on systemic reforms, community participation, and sustainable service delivery, these agreements aim to transform rural water management across the country.

As India moves toward the goal of universal water access, the collaboration between the Centre and the states supported by empowered local institutions will play a pivotal role in ensuring that safe and reliable drinking water becomes a reality for every rural household.





Innovative Best Practices Shared by Districts Through Presentations in 7th District Collectors' Peyjal Samvad

- Lopamudra Panda, NPMU-NJJM

Water, at its most basic level, is a necessity. But in rural India, water is also dignity, health, time saved, livelihoods secured, and futures rewritten especially for women and children. Recognising this profound truth, the Government of India has, over the last few years, placed drinking water and sanitation at the very heart of rural development. The 7th District Collectors' Peyjal Samvad, organised by the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS), Ministry of Jal Shakti, was another milestone in this journey bringing together policy vision, district leadership, community participation, and field-level innovation on a single platform.

Held through video conferencing, the Samvad convened District Collectors, Deputy Commissioners, Mission

Directors, and senior officials from across the country to deliberate on accelerating the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) 2.0 and Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen (SBM-G) Phase 2. More than a review meeting, the Peyjal Samvad emerged as a vibrant forum where experiences were shared, learnings were distilled, and the central role of districts in delivering last-mile service was reaffirmed.

Chairing the Samvad, **Shri Ashok K.K. Meena, Secretary, DDWS**, set the tone by reiterating the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of safe tap water to every rural household and cleanliness as a way of life. He emphasised that Jal Jeevan Mission and Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen are not siloed programmes but complementary

initiatives that together aim to transform rural quality of life.

He highlighted that with the extension of Jal Jeevan Mission, the Government is now in a stronger position to support States financially. However, the direction is clear and deliberate: future funding will be tied closely to functionality and service delivery outcomes, not merely infrastructure creation. The focus has shifted decisively from "coverage" to sustainability ensuring water flows not just to the tap, but continues to do so reliably, safely, and equitably.

This shift, he said, places districts at the core of implementation. The effectiveness of national missions ultimately depends on district-level leadership, regular monitoring, and responsive governance.

Collectors at the Helm: District Leadership Matters

Throughout the Peyjal Samvad, a recurring message was unmistakable District Collectors are the fulcrum of success for both Jal Jeevan Mission and Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen.

Secretary DDWS stressed:

- Regular District Water and Sanitation Mission (DWSM) meetings
- Monthly dashboard-based reviews
- Active coordination between engineering, panchayati raj, rural



Figure 22: Secretary, DDWS chairing the 7th DCPS | Source: NJJM



development, health, forest, and irrigation departments

Certification processes such as Har Ghar Jal were highlighted as not just formal milestones, but confidence-building tools for communities. States and districts were urged to expedite certification as soon as schemes are completed, reinforcing trust in public systems.

Equally important is the implementation of robust O&M policies, supported by resource convergence from Finance Commission grants, state funds, MPLAD/MLA-LAD, and user charges to ensure long-term sustainability.

Another key pillar discussed was digital transformation. The Secretary informed participants about the rollout of Sujala Gaon IDs, Swachh Bharat IDs, and the Sujalam Bharat App, aimed at creating a digital footprint of drinking water and sanitation assets.

While in-village infrastructure remains with Gram Panchayats, district administrations play a crucial coordination role, especially where water is sourced from state-managed bulk infrastructure.

These platforms:

- Improve transparency
- Enable real-time monitoring
- Strengthen grievance redressal
- Support evidence-based planning and reimbursement

States were also advised to furnish detailed updates on large projects above ₹100 crore, including financial and implementation status, to facilitate smoother fund flows and planning.

Referring to the recently organised Jal Mahotsav (8-22 March), the Secretary described it as a nationwide stock-taking exercise one that



Figure 23: AS&MD, NJJM addressing during the 7th DCPS | Source: NJJM

combined administrative review with community participation.

States were urged to update activity data and outcomes promptly, ensuring that learnings translate into improved planning.

In a significant policy shift, **Shri Kamal Kishore Soan, Additional Secretary & Mission Director, NJJM**, underscored that third-party functionality assessments will no longer be undertaken.

Instead, the Jal Seva Aankalan exercise, a community-led self-assessment mechanism, will form the primary basis for evaluating scheme functionality particularly for schemes commissioned up to December 2024.

Key highlights of this approach include:

- Household-level user feedback
- Gram Sabha endorsement
- Gram Panchayat-led data entry
- DTU technical validation
- District and State Improvement Plans

The Additional Secretary stressed that functionality data will only be available after completion of the full

Jal Jeevan Aatman cycle, making timely action a national priority. The approach aligns closely with the Prime Minister's vision of placing households, not hardware, at the centre of assessment.

DDWS Presentation on Jal Seva Aankalan & District Improvement Plan

A comprehensive presentation on Jal Seva Aankalan & District Improvement Plan was delivered by **Smt. Ankita Chakravarty, Deputy Secretary, NJJM**. E-launched on 30th December 2025 by the Union Minister of Jal Shakti **Shri C.R. Patil**, Jal Seva Aankalan establishes a nationwide Gram Panchayat-led functionality assessment mechanism for rural drinking water systems.

Smt. Ankita Chakravarty detailed the structured Framework, Gram Panchayat Assessment Form (village-level data entry by Panchayat Secretaries on JJM-IMIS using e-Gram Swaraj login post-Gram Sabha), District Technical Unit (DTU) Review Form (technical diagnosis of adverse feedback, deadline 20th April 2026), District Improvement Plan (DIP) featuring auto-aggregated data with pre-defined solution baskets and timeline-based actions requiring 90%





GP forms, DTU completion, and DWSM meetings, and State Service Improvement Plan (SIP) aggregating district-level plans.

Emphasizing the way forward, she urged District Collectors to expedite DTU assessments, convene DWSM meetings as DIP prerequisites, and commence DIP entry within four weeks, with progress tracking via Format B48 on JJM-IMIS. Jal Seva Aankalan transforms Panchayats from infrastructure recipients to active water service governors, generating actionable insights for sustainable rural water delivery through community-driven accountability and evidence-based corrective planning.

Covering over one lakh Gram Panchayats, this initiative enables communities to:

- Assess quality, quantity, regularity, and reliability of water supply
- Capture user experiences directly from households
- Generate evidence-based feedback on service delivery

These assessments are not merely diagnostic tools but actionable triggers. District Technical Units (DTUs) are now tasked with analysing feedback and preparing District Improvement Plans (DIPs) to address gaps be it technical, operational, or institutional.

Secretary, DDWS made it clear that data without action has little meaning. The goal is tangible, time-bound improvement at the village level.

Presentation by States

One of the most inspiring segments of the Peyjal Samvad was the presentation of best field practices by five districts across diverse geographies.

i. Tehri Garhwal, Uttarakhand

District Magistrate **Smt. Nitika Khandelwal** showcased the district's impressive progress with 99.72% Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) coverage and 81.32% Har Ghar Jal coverage.

She also mentioned that under the scheme's development programmes Quality Assurance, Regular monitoring, continuous DWSM meetings, Handover of O&M is taken care. While highlighting this villages Indwal Gaon and Village Kot came as the best villages for user collection charges. Further, she emphasized on Institutional Convergence for Source Sustainability, under which a key initiative is the convergence with the Spring and River Rejuvenation Authority (SARRA), which works in coordination with departments such as Irrigation, Forest, and Rural Development. Scientific DPRs and gap funding support ensure sustainable water sources, especially in hilly and forest areas. She further highlighted other best practices such as digitization through creation of KML files for created assets under JJM which is uploaded in PM Gati Shakti Portal, Grievance Redressal and NABL Accreditation of District Lab.

Under the SBM-G Phase 2, Smt. Nitika highlighted GP Katkhet, Tehri's

Greywater Management Saturation Approach. She mentioned that the villages have achieved 100% grey water management coverage, and this model promotes sustainable water use and environmental protection.

The innovative convergence model SARRA for Source Sustainability was appreciated by Secretary DDWS and urged that states and districts to come up with such innovative models.

ii. Koderma, Jharkhand

Shri Rituraj, Deputy Commissioner highlighted that the district has demonstrated a robust implementation model under JJM through a convergence-driven, technology-enabled, and community-centric approach. The district spans 1,655 sq. km with nearly 40% forest cover and is situated in the lower plateau region faces certain challenges across planning, implementation, and O&M stages included land and source identification and inter-departmental coordination. However, with the best key strategies like real-time data-driven monitoring through JJM dashboards and geo-tagged verification, Community Engagement, Scaling of successful SVS, Grievance redressal through State Government App JHARJAL and





Figure 25: Dpt. Commissioner, Kodarma presenting in 7th DCPS | Source: N.JJM

District monitored app MEETA, an evidence-based decision-making is carried forward for implementation of JJM. He further highlighted that technology-driven governance has been strengthened through the JHARJAL App for real-time grievance redressal within 72 hours, along with digital tracking of user charges and complaints.

The district has also prioritized source sustainability through scientific planning, water budgeting, recharge structures, and revival of traditional water bodies, while ensuring over 95% water quality testing coverage through field test kits and laboratory systems.

Under Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin), he shared that the district

has achieved significant success in greywater management with 97% coverage and top state rankings across sanitation indicators. Overall, the district's integrated approach has led to improved service delivery, enhanced community ownership, and sustainable water management outcomes.

iii. Anantnag, Jammu & Kashmir

Deputy Commissioner **Dr. Bilal Mohiuddin Bhat** presented a transformative and convergence-driven implementation model under JJM, marked by strong institutional coordination, community participation, and focus on sustainability. Landmark case studies of Nilphan and Masawati-Top highlight the impact, where habitations facing

decades-long water scarcity, forcing women to walk 10 km or rely on snow-melt have now been provided with assured tap water supply, significantly improving quality of life. The key best practice is the single-window, district-led convergence mechanism, with over 8 departments coordinated under the District Water & Sanitation Mission (DWSM), ensuring zero-delay clearances, seamless land allocation, and synchronized execution.

Further, under SBM-G the district has achieved 100% greywater management coverage through a saturation approach involving community and household soak pits, reinforcing environmental sustainability.

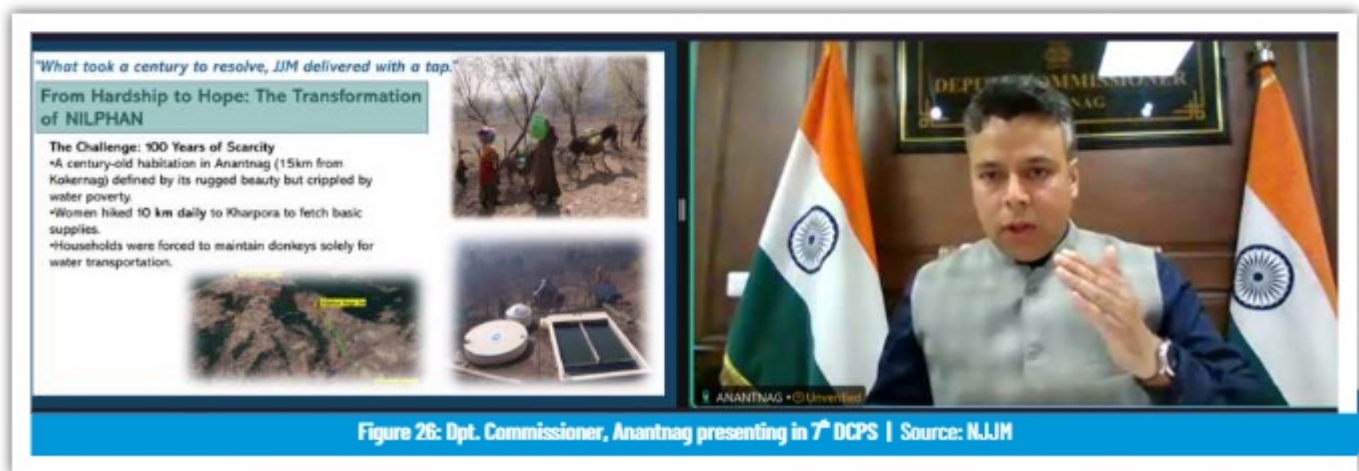


Figure 26: Dpt. Commissioner, Anantnag presenting in 7th DCPS | Source: N.JJM



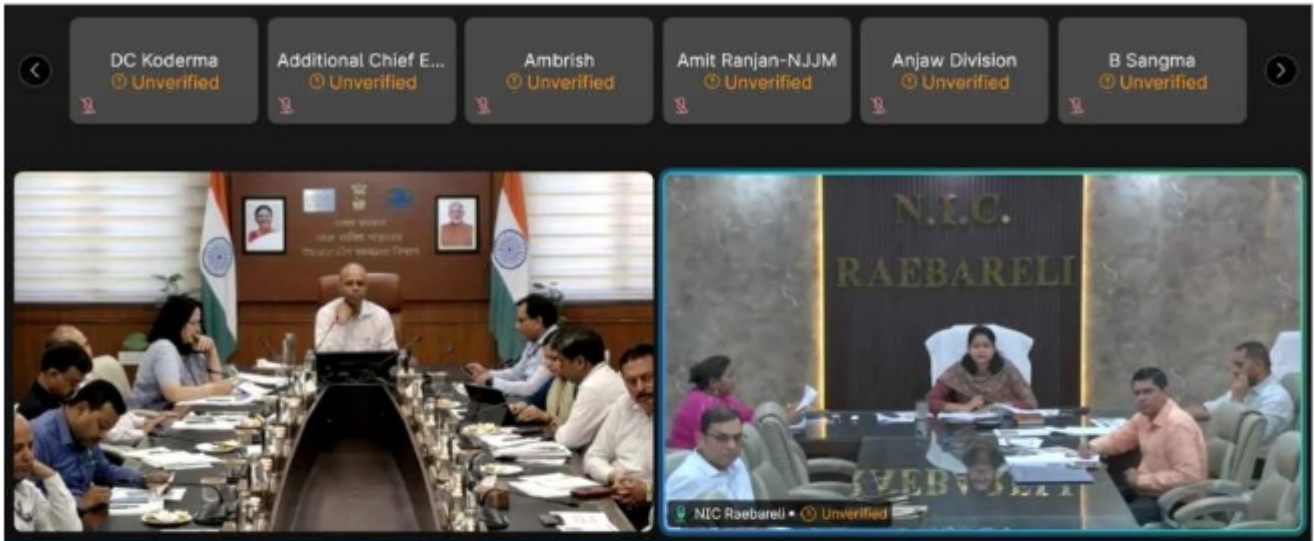


Figure 27: District Collector, Raebareli presenting in 7th DCPS | Source: NJJM

iv. Raebareli, Uttar Pradesh

District Collector **Smt. Harshita Mathur** presented the district's progress under the Jal Jeevan Mission and Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin (Phase 2). She informed that out of the total targeted households the district has achieved 93.46% coverage and is continuously working to reach a 100% coverage. She mentioned that for grievance redressal and citizen engagement, the district

is actively using the 'Jal Sarthi' app, a user-friendly mobile application, available on both Android and iOS platforms, enables people to promptly report water supply-related issues.

Under Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin (Phase 2), the district has achieved significant success in solid and liquid waste management. The district has operationalised 10 Faecal Sludge Treatment Plants (FSTPs) and

is actively implementing Material Recovery Facilities for scientific waste management.

v. Vijayapura, Karnataka

Deputy Commissioner **Dr. Anand K** highlighted the district has implemented 40 Multi-Village Schemes (MVS) using sustainable surface water sources from Almatti and Narayanpur Dams on the Krishna and Bhima rivers. He mentioned that the notable achievements include two large



Figure 28: Dpt. Commissioner, Vijayapura presenting in 7th DCPS | Source: NJJM



Design-Build-Operate-Transfer (DBOT) mode MVS projects. Dr. Anand informed that the district has achieved substantial progress in providing Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTC). The focus has now shifted from water availability to efficient distribution and sustainability. He further mentioned that the district has adopted Operation & Maintenance (O&M) Policy in all Gram Panchayats, with separate accounting for water-related expenses and prompt repair works. He also highlighted Smt. Channamma, SHG representative being awarded during National Jal Mahotsav for her continuous support under HGJ.

Under SBM-G Phase 2, Vijayapura has declared 270 villages (41.52%) as ODF Plus Model villages. He further highlighted the district is following a community-level saturation approach for both solid waste management and community

sanitary complexes through convergence of SBM-G and MGNREGA funds.

Addressing the gathering, **Smt. Aishwarya Singh, Joint Secretary & Mission Director (SBM-G)** highlighted India's progress towards 100% ODF Plus villages and urged districts to accelerate efforts in solid and liquid waste management, ensuring time-bound outcomes under SBM-G Phase 2.

In his concluding remarks, **Shri Kamal Kishore Soan** reinforced that the ultimate success of JJM 2.0 and SBM-G Phase 2 depends on:

- ◆ Proactive district leadership
- ◆ Regular DWSSM reviews
- ◆ Strengthening DTUs
- ◆ Prioritising Jal Seva Aankalan, Jal Arpan, and greywater management

Water as Governance, Service, and Trust

The 7th District Collectors' Peyjal Samvad was more than an administrative dialogue, it was a testament to how governance, when rooted in community participation and empowered local leadership, can transform lives.

From remote Himalayan villages to drought-prone plateaus, from digital dashboards to women-led maintenance committees, the Samvad showcased a simple yet powerful truth: when districts lead with commitment, collaboration, and compassion, the last mile is no longer out of reach. As districts move forward with Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0 and Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen Phase 2, the spirit of Peyjal Samvad will continue to guide them from policy to practice, from taps to trust, and from vision to village.



Figure 29: Secretary, DDWS chairing the 7th DCPS | Source: NJJM





From Assessment to Action: District Improvement Plan under Jal Seva Aankalan

- Ankita Chakravarty, Deputy Secretary, NJJM



Ms. Ankita Chakravarty

Ensuring sustained rural water service delivery is not merely about infrastructure creation- it is about translating data into decisions and decisions into outcomes. As Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) transitions from expanding coverage to strengthening functionality, Jal Seva Aankalan (JSA) has laid the foundation for community-led assessment. The **District Improvement Plan (DIP)** now emerges as the critical next step- transforming assessment insights into structured, time-bound action.

Bridging the Gap Between Diagnosis and Action

Jal Seva Aankalan, launched in December 2025, institutionalised Gram Panchayat-led assessment of rural water supply services. Through Gram Sabha deliberations and Panchayat-level data entry, villages now regularly assess key service



Figure 30: In the sizzling summer, a splash of tap water at school feels like pure bliss | Source: NJJM

delivery parameters- regularity, adequacy, water quality, sustainability, and operational readiness.

However, assessment alone does not improve service delivery. It must be followed by **clear identification of causes and responsive planning**.

This is where the District Improvement Plan plays a pivotal role.

The DIP acts as a bridge between:

- i. Community-validated assessment (GP level)
- ii. Technical diagnosis (DTU level)
- iii. Administrative decision-making (District level)

It ensures that issues identified at the grassroots are not only acknowledged but addressed through a structured governance mechanism.



A Data-Driven District Planning Framework

Unlike traditional planning approaches that often rely on proposals or periodic surveys, the District Improvement Plan is **entirely data-driven**.

It is to be prepared by the District Water & Sanitation Mission (DWSM) based on:

- ◆ Aggregated outputs of Gram Panchayat-level Jal Seva Aankalan
- ◆ Root cause analysis provided by District Technical Units (DTU)

This integration envisages to ensure that planning is grounded in:

- ◆ Real service delivery gaps, and
- ◆ Technically validated causes.

The DIP captures not just *what* the issue is, but *why* it exists and *what needs to be done*.

From Issues to Actionable Decisions

The strength of the District Improvement Plan lies in its ability to convert diverse and scattered feedback into **structured decision-making**.

At the district level, key service delivery challenges- such as irregular supply, inadequate quantity, water quality concerns, infrastructure gaps, or weak operation and maintenance- are to be aggregated and analysed.

Based on DTU diagnosis, the DWSM to record **administrative directions**, such as:

- ◆ Strengthening operation and maintenance systems,
- ◆ Improving monitoring and supervision,
- ◆ Addressing infrastructure bottlenecks,

- ◆ Enhancing water quality surveillance,
- ◆ Initiating convergence with other schemes, or
- ◆ Escalating issues requiring state-level intervention.

Importantly, the DIP is not a technical document or a project proposal. It is an **administrative decision framework**, designed to be simple, actionable, and aligned with the role of district leadership.

Institutional Ownership at the District Level

The preparation of DIP is anchored in the District Water & Sanitation Mission

(DWSM), chaired by the District Magistrate / Deputy Commissioner. This ensures that:

- ◆ Decisions are taken at the appropriate administrative level,
- ◆ Inter-departmental coordination is enabled, and

- ◆ Accountability for service delivery is clearly defined.

The process encourages convergence with departments such as rural development, energy, health, and Panchayati Raj, recognising that water service delivery is inherently multi-sectoral.

By positioning the district as the fulcrum of action, DIP strengthens decentralised governance while maintaining systemic coherence.

A Structured Yet Flexible Digital System

The DIP has been operationalised through a dedicated module on JJM-IMIS, enabling:

- ◆ Auto-aggregation of village-level data,
- ◆ Structured presentation of issues and causes,
- ◆ Recording of district-level decisions, and



Figure 31: Rural water supply infrastructure under JJM, ensuring safe and reliable water distribution | Source: N.JJM





- Monitoring of timelines and progress.

To ensure both data reliability and timeliness, a threshold-based approach has been adopted:

- DIP becomes available for preparation once a substantial proportion of GP and DTU assessments are completed
- Final submission is enabled only upon full completion of assessments

This approach balances **data completeness with administrative urgency**, allowing districts to initiate planning without waiting for absolute completion.

Enabling a Continuous Improvement Cycle

The District Improvement Plan is not an isolated exercise. It is part of a **continuous improvement cycle** under Jal Seva Aankalan:

Village Assessment → Technical Diagnosis → District Planning → State Oversight

Through this cycle:

- Village-level issues inform district decisions,
- District-level patterns inform state-level interventions, and
- Systemic gaps are addressed through policy and programme adjustments.

In this sense, DIP becomes the **operational core of JSA**, where assessment translates into measurable action.

Strengthening Accountability and Responsiveness

By institutionalising DIP, Jal Seva Aankalan moves beyond reporting to **action-oriented governance**.

The process ensures that:

- Service gaps are systematically identified and prioritised,
- Responsibilities are assigned at the district level,
- Decisions are recorded transparently, and
- Progress can be monitored over time.

This enhances accountability not only within the administration but also in the eyes of citizens, who can see that their feedback is leading to tangible improvements.

Towards Sustainable Rural Water Services

The District Improvement Plan reflects a larger shift in rural water governance- from infrastructure-centric planning to **service delivery-centric management**.

It reinforces the principle that:

- Water supply systems must not only be created, but sustained,
- Community feedback must inform administrative action, and

- Governance must be data-driven, responsive, and transparent.

As districts begin to operationalise DIP across the country, the focus will increasingly move towards ensuring:

- Reliable daily water supply,
- Safe and compliant water quality,
- Financially and institutionally sustainable systems, and
- Long-term source security.

Conclusion: From Participation to Performance

Jal Seva Aankalan empowered communities to assess their water services. The District Improvement Plan ensures that this assessment leads to action. Together, they represent a powerful governance shift where citizens identify issues, systems diagnose causes, and administrations respond with clarity and accountability. In doing so, the District Improvement Plan strengthens the promise of Jal Jeevan Mission not just to provide water connections, but to ensure that every household continues to receive safe, adequate, and reliable drinking water.



Figure 32: Last-mile water delivery reaching rural households | Source: N.J.JM



Driving Rural Water Security through Governance, Innovation and Community Ownership: The Koderma Model

- Rituraj, Deputy Commissioner, Koderma, Jharkhand



Rituraj

Koderma district of Jharkhand, widely known as the Mica Capital of India, has emerged as a promising model of rural water supply transformation under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM). Characterized by forested terrain, dispersed habitations, and seasonal water stress, the district earlier faced significant challenges in ensuring safe and reliable drinking water access. Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) coverage was only 7.53 percent, with most households dependent on distant and unsafe sources in 2019 when JJM launched. Geographical constraints, issues in land, inter-departmental coordination gaps, and public resistance affected implementation, while the absence of skilled manpower, weak user charge systems, and limited capacity of Village Water and Sanitation Committees (VWSCs) hindered sustainability and post-handover management.



Figure 33: A JJM beneficiary with FHTC | Source: DWSM Koderma

To address these challenges, the district adopted a **data driven, governance-led, technology-enabled and community-driven approach**, beginning with a strong foundation of data-driven monitoring. Real-time tracking through JJM MIS dashboards, supported by geo-tagging and field verification, enabled transparency, timely

reviews, and evidence-based decision-making. Building on this data ecosystem, technology interventions were leveraged to improve responsiveness and accountability. The introduction of the JHARJAL App, along with the Action-72 framework, ensured time-bound grievance redressal within 72 hours through mobile-based tracking and quick





Figure 34: Regular monitoring by Jal Sahiya | Source: DWSM Koderma

field-level response. Scientific planning tools such as source mapping, water budgeting, identification of vulnerable habitations, and seasonal preparedness further strengthened system resilience and planning efficiency.

A **ridge-to-valley approach** was adopted to ensure holistic water resource management, complemented by the development of **100-meter water conservation structures**, including recharge wells, checkdams and ponds, aimed at

maximizing water storage and strengthening aquifer recharge.

Complementing data and technology, **community engagement** was institutionalized as a core pillar of implementation. VWSCs and Paani Samitis were empowered to lead implementation as well as operation and maintenance, supported by Gram Sabha-based planning processes that ensured participation, ownership, and accountability at the grassroots level. Sustainability was reinforced through convergence-based interventions, including construction of check dams, soak pits and recharge structures, revival of traditional water bodies, and catchment area treatment.

A robust water quality surveillance system ensured coverage of more than 95 percent villages through Field Test Kits (FTKs) and over 99 percent laboratory testing. A structured Operation and Maintenance framework, including user charge-based financing, dedicated Gram Panchayat-level funds, capacity building of VWSCs, and technical



Figure 35: Regular meeting of VWSC members | Source: DWSM Koderma



Figure 36: IEC activity involving students as change agents | Source: N.JJM

support from DWSD and block teams, ensured long-term functionality, while convergence with VB G-RAM-G, SBM(G) and DMFT further strengthened water conservation, greywater management and infrastructure development.

These interventions resulted in significant improvements in coverage and service delivery, with FHTC coverage increasing from 7.53 percent to 45.77 percent, reflecting nearly sixfold growth. Out of 522 approved schemes, 394 have been completed, 66 villages have achieved “Har Ghar Jal” status, and handover to Gram Panchayats has improved from 78 percent to 93 percent, indicating strong local ownership. In addition, the district has achieved remarkable progress in greywater management, with **97 percent**

coverage, placing it among the top-performing districts in the state and ensuring effective wastewater reuse and sanitation outcomes. The large-scale adoption of soak pits, drainage systems and community-led greywater management has significantly reduced water stagnation and improved village hygiene.

Beyond these gains, the initiative has led to visible social transformation, with reduced drudgery for women, improved health outcomes due to safe drinking water, better educational engagement among children, and strengthened community ownership and behavioural change.

The transformation of Rajaraydih village in Markacho block stands as a compelling example of this progress, where the Telodih Multi-Village

Water Supply Scheme has ensured universal tap water access, along with effective greywater management, significantly enhancing quality of life, dignity, and overall sanitation outcomes. Koderma's experience clearly demonstrates that the success of the Jal Jeevan Mission goes beyond infrastructure creation and rests on the effective integration of governance reforms, technology, community participation, sustainable operation and maintenance systems, and greywater management practices. The district thus presents a scalable and replicable model, reinforcing the vision of “Har Ghar Jal” as a pathway towards sustainable rural development, improved public health, and inclusive growth.

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NPMU-NJM





Transforming Rural Paradigms: A Scientific and Administrative Assessment of Jal Jeevan Mission and Swachh Bharat Mission in Tehri Garhwal

- Nitika Khandelwal, District Magistrate, Tehri Garhwal, Uttarakhand



Nitika Khandelwal

The implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) and Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen (SBM-G) within Tehri Garhwal district underscores a strategic pivot toward sustainable rural governance. Rather than focusing solely on infrastructure deployment, the District Administration has prioritized ecological preservation, digital asset management, and community-led operations. This article delineates the best administrative and scientific practices adopted in the district, demonstrating how technological integration and inter-departmental convergence pave the way for long-term infrastructural resilience.

Quantitative Trajectory and Implementation Metrics

It is upon this robust foundation of ecological planning, digitization, and community engagement that the district's quantitative success is built.



Figure 37: Handover of Water Supply Scheme of Kaleth village | Source: DDWS, Tehri Garhwal

The baseline infrastructure in Tehri Garhwal has undergone a massive transformation. Out of 129,045 total households in the district, 128,689 have been covered with a Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC), resulting in an outstanding coverage rate of 99.72%. Across the district's 9 blocks, 2,282 total PWS projects have been physically completed. The remaining 24 projects adhere to a strict timeline, with 20 projects scheduled for completion by June 30, 2026, and the final 4 by September 30, 2026.

Progress under SBM mirrors this success. An impressive 1,692 villages (97.35%) have been declared as ODF Plus Model Villages, with 100% having passed their first verification. Furthermore, solid waste management systems have been integrated

into 1,735 villages (99.83%), proving that the district's holistic, best-practice-first approach yields highly effective, measurable outcomes.

Institutionalizing Best Practices: Ecology and Digitization

The core of Tehri Garhwal's approach lies in its proactive, qualitative interventions, ensuring that water supply systems remain functional and ecologically viable over the long term.

- ◆ **Ecological Rejuvenation under SARRA:** Recognizing that rural water supply is entirely dependent on source sustainability, the district has implemented source rejuvenation works as a primary best practice under the Spring



and River Rejuvenation Authority (SARRA), a specialized body established in the Uttarakhand state in November 2023. The administrative protocol mandates the careful identification of sources targeted for water conservation activities. To ensure a highly scientific methodology, Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) are framed through coordinated inter-departmental efforts encompassing the Forest, Rural Development, SARRA, Peyjal, and Panchayati Raj departments.

• **Technological Integration via KML Mapping:** To ensure administrative transparency and precise asset tracking, the district has adopted the digitization of all created assets as a standard best practice. The creation of KML (Keyhole Markup Language) files is mandated for infrastructure developed under the JJM. These KML files are systematically prepared and uploaded to the PM Gati Shakti Portal. Demonstrating the scale of this digitization, the district has successfully uploaded KML files for 10,826 kilometers of laid pipeline out of a total target of

11,187 kilometers, achieving an exceptional digital mapping compliance rate of 96.77%.

• **Community Ownership and Financial Decentralization:** True sustainability requires community ownership. In Tehri Garhwal, 691 water schemes have been officially handed over to village communities for operation and maintenance (O&M). A critical best practice established here is the successful implementation of user charge collection. For example, the village of Indwal Gaon in the Chamba block efficiently collects Rs. 60 per household per month, while Kot village collects Rs. 50 per household per month, securing the fiscal independence of these local schemes.

The GP Katkhet Model: A Saturation Approach to Sanitation

The district's strategy for the Swachh Bharat Mission relies heavily on resource convergence. The Gram Panchayat of Katkhet (Tholdhar Block) represents an exemplary model of a 100% saturation approach

for Greywater Management (GWM).

To service the entire community of 136 households, the administration utilized cross-departmental convergence. Funds from MNREGA were mobilized to construct 100 individual soak pits, while SBMG funds were utilized to construct 9 community soak pits, effectively covering the remaining 36 households and safely managing end-point discharge. Crucially, all public institutions within the GP, including the school, Anganwadi, and Panchayat Ghar, are also serviced by these community soak pits. Ongoing O&M for this comprehensive drainage system is sustained autonomously via the Village level FFC Grant.

Scientific Quality Assurance and Bureaucratic Accountability

Supporting the grassroots initiatives is a rigid framework of scientific testing and accountable grievance redressal.

• **Laboratory Testing & NABL Accreditation:** The district enforces a strict quality control protocol under JJM, mandating



Figure 38-40: Community soak Pits covering end point discharge with community soak Pits (MNREGA+SBMG) | Source: DOWS, Tehri Garhwal



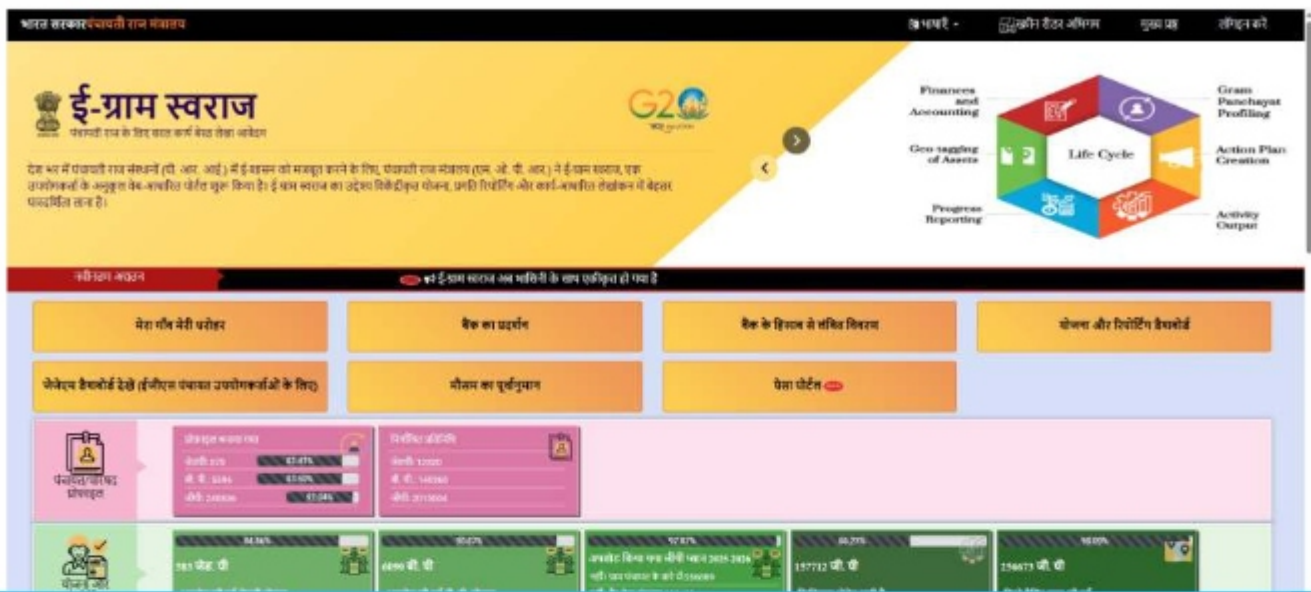


Figure 41: Jal Seva Aankalan Dashboard | Source: DDWS, Tehri Garhwal

100 percent sampling and laboratory testing of all pipes and construction materials such as cement, reinforcements and concrete through government-approved laboratories. The District Level Water Quality Testing and Monitoring

Laboratory in New Tehri is NABL accredited (Certificate Number: TC-17876), ensuring reliable water quality testing standards valid until April 2030.

For Piped Water Supply projects exceeding ₹5 crore, dedicated on-site Quality Control laboratories are

required. In addition, water quality testing is carried out twice a year in NABL-accredited divisional laboratories during pre-monsoon and post-monsoon periods, while Field Test Kit testing at the community level is conducted by SHGs and local cadres to ensure regular monitoring at the village level.



Figure 42: Water quality Testing and Monitoring Laboratory | Source: DDWS, Tehri Garhwal

◆ **Time-Bound Grievance Redressal:** The administration maintains a 24x7 helpline integrated with the CM Helpline Portal and a toll-free number (1800-180-4100). Clear bureaucratic mandates define resolution timelines: pumping plants must be repaired within 24 hours, minor infrastructural repairs within 2 days, and major repairs within 7 days. Additionally, the Jal Seva Aanklan evaluation has been comprehensively finalized in 1,202 out of 1,208 qualifying villages (99.50%) to benchmark service delivery.

Strengthening Community Participation for Sustainable Water Management

The Teri district has undertaken several community-driven initiatives to ensure sustainable water management and efficient service delivery. Efforts have been made to raise awareness on water tax collection, encouraging communities to contribute towards the operation and maintenance of water supply systems. At the same time, focused education campaigns are being conducted to minimize wastage of water and promote responsible usage. Stakeholders are actively engaged through various awareness campaigns, strengthening participation at all levels. These initiatives are further supported by the promotion of *Jan Bhagidari*, fostering a sense of ownership among community members for the sustainable use and management of water resources.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the implementation of JJM and SBM in Tehri Garhwal exemplifies a successful bureaucratic model that synergizes robust monitoring with ecological initiatives. By institutionalizing best



Figure 43: IEC awareness activities with villagers | Source: DDWS, Tehri Garhwal



Figure 44: IEC awareness activities with villagers | Source: DDWS, Tehri Garhwal

practices such as digitization, source rejuvenation, and community-driven operations, the district administration has moved beyond mere asset creation. This holistic convergence of

scientific quality assurance and decentralized governance ultimately ensures a sustainable water future for the district.

- Copy edited by Aniketa Sattavan





The Anantnag Water Transformation: From Hardship to Hope

- Dr. Bilal Mohiuddin Bhat, Deputy commissioner, Anantnag



Dr. Bilal Mohiuddin Bhat

The implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in District Anantnag reflects a significant transformation in rural drinking water supply, marking a shift from historical water scarcity to near-universal household tap connectivity. At the time of the launch of the Mission in 2019, the district had 48,929 rural Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTCs), which has increased to 1,23,516 as on 14th April 2026. Consequently, the FHTC coverage has risen from 36.81% to

92.93%, positioning Anantnag among the top-performing districts in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.

The district has faced considerable geographical and climatic challenges. Being located in the Kashmir Valley at a higher altitude and in close proximity to glacial regions, Anantnag experiences prolonged sub-zero temperatures during winter months. These conditions often lead to freezing of water in pipelines and consequent disruption in supply.



Figure 45: Weather condition never be a challenge | Source: DWSM Aantnag



Figure 46: Water supply asset under JJM | Source: DWSM Aantnag

Additionally, land acquisition for the creation of water supply infrastructure has posed a persistent constraint across the district.

These challenges have been effectively addressed through a combination of institutional strength, engineering innovation, and community participation. The proactive role of the District Jal Jeevan Mission (DJJM), supported by strong inter-departmental coordination, has been instrumental in resolving issues related to land, clearances, power supply, and execution bottlenecks. More than 800 kanal of state and forest land has been successfully mobilized for JJM works, involving coordination across more than eight departments. A structured review mechanism under the District Water and Sanitation Mission (DWSM) has ensured timely decision-making and reduced delays.

From a technical perspective, the district has effectively leveraged its natural topography by adopting **gravity-based water supply schemes**, which significantly reduce Operation and Maintenance (O&M) costs. The selection of predominantly perennial water sources, supplemented by standby or backup sources, has ensured continuity of

supply, especially **during winter months**. Innovative operational strategies such as night-flow rationing have been adopted to prevent freezing of water in pipelines, while pipelines are laid at deeper levels to withstand extreme cold conditions. These context-specific engineering solutions have enhanced the resilience and reliability of water supply systems in the district.

The institutional framework for monitoring and implementation has

also been strengthened. **The District Project Management Unit (DPMU)** is housed within the office of the Deputy Commissioner, enabling close supervision and coordination. Retired senior engineers have been engaged as technical consultants, and third-party inspections are carried out to ensure quality assurance. Regular DWSM review meetings further contribute to effective monitoring and timely resolution of issues.

Community engagement has been a cornerstone of JJM implementation in Anantnag. Village Water and Sanitation Committees (VWSCs) have played a critical role in planning, implementation, and monitoring of schemes, thereby fostering a strong sense of ownership among the local population. Extensive Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) activities have been carried out across all 351 villages in the district, supported by five Implementation Support Agencies (ISAs). These efforts include distribution of Field Testing Kits (FTKs), wall paintings, rallies, street plays, and recognition of well-performing villages. Notably, women have actively participated as “Water Warriors,” contributing



Figure 47: Flagging off of Prachar Rath, an effective means for messaging | Source: DWSM Aantnag





Figure 48: Rejuvenation of Badamnag Verinag | Source: DWSM Aantnag

significantly to community mobilization and water quality monitoring.

Water quality monitoring and surveillance (WQM&S) has been comprehensively implemented across the district. Testing is being conducted in all 351 villages, as well as in 1,556 schools and 1,707 Anganwadi centres. The district benefits from a robust network of

NABL-accredited laboratories, ensuring reliability and accuracy of test results. Regular sanitary surveys and intensified screening following natural disasters are conducted to safeguard public health. These efforts have led to a noticeable decline in water-borne diseases in the district.

Sustainability of water sources has been addressed through a range of

measures, including **plantation drives, spring rejuvenation, water body restoration, and construction of recharge pits**. These initiatives are being implemented through convergence with departments such as Forest, Rural Development, and Irrigation & Flood Control (I&FC). Real-time data monitoring through the Water Quality Management Information System (WQMIS) further strengthens the sustainability framework.

The district has also undertaken **Jal Seva Aanklan** (service-level assessment) to evaluate actual service delivery on the ground. The assessment conducted in **51 villages between 29th January and 7th February 2026** revealed **no gaps in 39 Panchayats**, while gaps identified in other areas have since been addressed. This exercise has validated the effectiveness of the service delivery model and highlighted areas for continuous improvement.

The impact of JJM in Anantnag is best reflected in the transformation of



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20/03/2025 11:38 AM GMT +05:30



Hapura Badas Gem
H0m3+4w, Near Chakri, Habura Badas Gem,
192211,
Lat 33.582754° Long 75.204552°
20/03/2025 11:38 AM GMT +05:30



Figure 49-53: Greywater management initiative | Source: DWSM Aantnag



Figure 54: Source rejuvenation initiative | Source: DWSM Anantnag

villages that historically suffered from acute water scarcity.

In Nilphan village, where for over a century residents relied on donkeys for transporting water and women had to walk up to 10 kilometers daily, the provision of tap water has dramatically improved quality of life. Similarly, in Masawati-Top, a remote village where residents previously depended on melting snow during winters, the availability of piped water supply has been described as a “lifeline.”

Alongside the transformative progress achieved under Jal Jeevan Mission, **Swachh Bharat Mission–Grameen (SBM-G)** has played a critical role in improving public health, environmental sanitation, and quality of life in District Anantnag. The district has achieved 100% ODF Plus Model village declaration across all 426 villages, with 100% first-level verification completed and 59% villages clearing second-level verification. Universal coverage has also been achieved under Individual Household Latrines (IHHL), with 1,52,669 toilets con-

structed and 99.86% retrofitting completed, ensuring sustained usage and functionality. These outcomes reflect a strong institutional emphasis on sustainability, verification, and behaviour change beyond initial infrastructure creation.

Significant progress has been recorded in **waste management systems**, strengthening the ODF-Plus framework. All 426 villages now have **greywater management systems**, supported by the construction of **979 community soak pits and 13,164 individual soak pits** till 2025-26. To further advance saturation, an additional 265 community soak pits and 45,000 individual soak pits are planned for 2026-27. In parallel, the district has achieved **100% coverage in solid waste management**, supported by **16 Primary Waste Management Units (PWMUs)** across all blocks, and the construction of a **GOBAR-Dhan plant**, with one more currently under implementation. These interventions, implemented largely through **convergence with MGNREGA and SBM-G Phase 2.0**, have contributed to improved village cleanliness, reduced waterlogging, enhanced groundwater recharge, and local employment generation.

Community-centric models have been central to SBM-G implementation in Anantnag. Through household-level and community-level greywater management, including soak pits, drains, recharge points, and the rejuvenation of water bodies, the district has addressed both sanitation and environmental sustainability in an integrated manner. Works such as the development of **Amrit Sarovars, spring rejuvenation, water harvesting tanks, and drains** have strengthened natural resource management while enhancing visual cleanliness in villages. The convergence-based approach adopted under SBM-G complements the gains made under JJM, reinforcing the





Figure 55: Awareness messaging through Prachar Rath | Source: DWSM Anantnag

district's commitment to safe water, clean surroundings, and dignified living conditions. Together, these efforts ensure that the transformation from hardship to hope in Anantnag is not limited to water supply alone but extends holistically to sanitation, health, and sustainable rural development.

In conclusion, District Anantnag stands as a compelling example of integrated rural transformation, where access to safe drinking water and improved sanitation have together reshaped everyday life in some of the most geographically and climatically challenging areas of the country. Through the effective implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission, the district has successfully transitioned from chronic water scarcity to dependable and resilient drinking water service delivery,

supported by innovative engineering solutions, strong institutional mechanisms, and active community participation.

At the same time, parallel progress under SBM-G has ensured that gains in water supply are reinforced by sustained sanitation outcomes. The achievement of ODF Plus status across all villages, universal toilet coverage, comprehensive greywater and solid waste management systems, and convergence-based environmental interventions reflect a deliberate shift from infrastructure creation to behaviour change, public health protection, and environmental sustainability. Together, JJM and SBM-G have enabled a holistic improvement in living conditions, dignity, and overall quality of life for rural households in Anantnag.

The experience of Anantnag demonstrates that lasting change is achieved when engineering excellence, institutional discipline, inter-departmental coordination, and community ownership converge around a shared vision. By integrating water security with sanitation, hygiene, and source sustainability, the district has moved beyond sectoral silos toward people-centric governance. As Anantnag continues on this path, it offers valuable lessons for mountainous and climate-sensitive regions, reaffirming that with committed leadership and empowered communities, transformation from hardship to hope is both possible and sustainable.

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NPMU-NJIM



From Water Insecurity to Har Ghar Jal in Raebareli

- Harshita Mathur, District Collector, Raebareli, Uttar Pradesh



Harshita Mathur

Introduction

Access to safe drinking water and sanitation is not just a basic necessity but a foundation for dignity, health and socio-economic development in rural India. Raebareli district in Uttar Pradesh, located in the fertile Indo-Gangetic plain along the Ganga and Sai rivers, has a predominantly agrarian population spread across 18 development blocks.

Despite the availability of surface and groundwater resources, challenges related to access and water quality persisted. At the same time, sanitation coverage and waste management systems were still evolving, which affected overall public health outcomes. With the implementation of the Swachh Bharat Mission Gramin, the district strengthened its sanitation infrastructure and behaviour change efforts, creating a strong base for improved hygiene and cleanliness.

4,70,568	93.46%	100%
Hhs with Tap (15 Apr 2026)	FHTC Coverage	Jal Sewa Akalan (300/300 GPs)

As on 15 August 2019, only 5,370 households (1.07%) had tap water connections out of a total of 5,03,473 rural households. Under the Jal Jeevan Mission, the district has made transformative progress, as on 15 April 2026, 4,70,568 households (93.46%) now have functional tap water connections, with 4,65,198 connections provided since the mission's launch. The district has also achieved near-universal sanitation coverage under the Swachh Bharat Mission Gramin, with 98.7 percent of villages declared as ODF Plus Model Villages, reflecting strong implementation and community participation. This progress is further supported by the adoption of solid and liquid waste management systems, contributing to improved sanitation outcomes and cleaner village environments.

Pre-Intervention Context

Prior to the operationalization of piped water supply under JJM, households in rural Raebareli depended primarily on hand pumps, open wells and scattered community taps. These sources were often distant, seasonally unreliable and in several blocks contaminated with fluoride, nitrate and iron, rendering

them unsafe for regular consumption. Alongside this, limited sanitation infrastructure and improper waste disposal practices posed additional risks to community health and environmental hygiene, highlighting the need for an integrated approach to water and sanitation.

The burden of water collection fell disproportionately on women and girls, who spent several hours each day fetching water. An Impact Assessment Study conducted by IIM Lucknow confirmed that 95 percent of women in the district now save a considerable amount of time as they receive piped water under JJM, marking a fundamental improvement in their quality of life and livelihood opportunities. These gains have been further strengthened by SBM Gramin interventions, which have improved sanitation practices, reduced health risks and contributed to cleaner and healthier village environments.

Functional Household Tap Connectivity

The introduction of Functional Household Tap Connections under the JJM has significantly transformed





the water supply system in Raebareli. From a baseline coverage of 1.07 percent (5,370 households) in August 2019, the district has achieved 93.46 percent coverage as on 15 April 2026, with 4,70,568 households now having tap water connections, including 4,65,198 connections provided since the launch of the mission.

This progress has been supported by the operationalization of four major water supply schemes- Vinhora, Amraha, Khwajapur and Saraura. Each scheme is equipped with solar-powered pumping systems and overhead storage tanks of 200 KL capacity. The shift to multi-village piped water supply networks has replaced the earlier fragmented dependence on stand-alone hand pumps, ensuring more reliable and equitable access to drinking water across rural households.

Strengthening Sustainability through Source and Financial Interventions

In Raebareli, a comprehensive approach has been adopted to ensure both source and financial sustainability under the Jal Jeevan Mission.

- **Source sustainability measures** include massive plantation drives undertaken through the Forest Department at all JJM scheme sites, along with the development of groundwater recharge structures across all approved schemes, contributing to improvement in the water table. Further, solar-powered pumping systems have been installed at all major water supply schemes, ensuring energy-efficient and reliable water supply while reducing dependence on conventional power sources.

- **Financial sustainability** has been strengthened through a combination of community contribution and institutional support. Nominal monthly user charges are collected from households and deposited into dedicated Gram Panchayat water funds to support operation and maintenance. Tied grants under the Fifteenth Finance Commission are being utilised for major repairs as well as for strengthening the capacity of Village Water and Sanitation Committees. In addition, digital monitoring through the JJM national MIS and grievance redressal portal enables real-time tracking of systems, improving transparency, accountability and timely issue resolution.

Jal Seva Aankalan - 100% Achievement

A key highlight of Raebareli's implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission is the successful completion of Jal Seva Aankalan (JSA), a structured, community-based water service assessment process. All 300 Gram Panchayats that qualified for JSA have completed the assessment, making Raebareli one of the top-performing districts in Uttar Pradesh on this key indicator (national data shows Rae Bareli at >50% but <100% GP Form submission progress nationally, with 300 qualifying GPs).

A key highlight of Raebareli's implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission is the 100% successful completion of Jal Seva Aankalan (JSA), a structured, community-based water service assessment process. All 300 eligible Gram Panchayats in the district have completed the assessment, positioning Raebareli among the leading districts in Uttar Pradesh on this critical indicator.

To achieve this, the district adopted a two-phase approach:

- Phase 1 focused on planning, inter-departmental coordination with DPRO and Jal Nigam, and capacity building of Panchayat Secretaries through back-to-back meetings. A joint monitoring cell was created to bridge communication gaps between departments, and an offline-to-online reporting backup plan was developed to prevent technical disruptions.

- Phase 2 focused on field implementation and Jan Bhagidari (community participation). VWSC meetings were held at each gram panchayat level to explain the JSA process, and Nodal Officers were appointed in every block for immediate field problem resolution. Random cross-verification was deployed to ensure data accuracy.

Digital Empowerment: The Launch of 'Jal Sarthi' Mobile Application in Uttar Pradesh

Under the visionary framework of the Jal Jeevan Mission, the Uttar Pradesh government has launched the 'Jal Sarthi' mobile application. App is designed to bridge the gap between rural communities and water management authorities; this app serves as a robust platform for real-time monitoring and community engagement.





Governance & Institutional Framework

Village Water and Sanitation Committees (VWSCs) have been constituted in every Gram Panchayat, with at least 50 percent women representation, to manage operations, oversee maintenance and ensure accountability in water service delivery.

District-level monitoring involves multiple stakeholders, including the Chief Development Officer, Additional District Magistrate, Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Uttar Pradesh Jal Nigam, Third-Party Inspection Agency, District Project Monitoring Unit and District Monitoring Committees. These institutions oversee supervision, land NOC clearances, inter-departmental coordination and resolution of administrative challenges.

The District Magistrate has taken a proactive role in overseeing JJM implementation, with regular field visits to project sites, review of progress and emphasis on quality and timely completion. Regular District Water and Sanitation Mission meetings have also been conducted under the chairmanship of the District Magistrate, with active involvement of the Nodal Minister and Nodal Officer.

IIM Lucknow Impact Assessment

An independent impact assessment study conducted by Indian Institute of Management Lucknow across JJM-covered villages in Raebareli highlights significant multi-dimensional improvements. Deep bore wells (tube wells) serve as the primary water source, ensuring reliable supply. The study found that 95 percent of women reported substantial time savings after the introduction of piped water supply, leading to improved quality of life and



Figure 56: Assessment conducted by IIM Lucknow | Source: DWSM Raebareli

greater participation in livelihood activities. It also documented improved health outcomes, including a decline in waterborne diseases due to access to safe drinking water.

In addition, school attendance has increased as students now have access to adequate and safe water within their communities. A unanimous finding (100 percent of respondents) further confirmed increased employment opportunities, particularly in farming and cattle rearing, the primary occupations in rural Raebareli.

District Technical Unit Review & District Improvement Plan

Jal Seva Aankalan observations identified key service delivery gaps across Gram Panchayats in the district, including supply deficits where household delivery does not meet the 55 LPCD benchmark, infrastructure leakages due to damaged pipelines and valves, water quality concerns such as contamination and high turbidity, operational risks from deterioration of pump and overhead tank components, and gaps in the technical capacity of Village Water and Sanitation Committees.

To address these, the District Technical Unit (DTU) formulated targeted resolution strategies for each category. These include hydraulic optimization through redesigning pressure zones and removing distribution bottlenecks, technical remediation through site-specific repairs and adherence to quality standards, water quality management interventions with corrective filtration and enhanced Field Test Kit training, preventive maintenance through standardised operation and maintenance protocols, and institutional strengthening through capacity building and continuous handholding of Village Water and Sanitation Committees. The overall objective is to ensure long-term sustainability through a combination of technical and community-based interventions.

Community Ownership and Public Engagement

Raebareli's progress under the Jal Jeevan Mission is not limited to infrastructure creation, but is equally reflected in the strengthening of community ownership and public participation through structured initiatives and events.





रायबरेली में 'जल अर्पण कार्यक्रम' का किया उद्घाटन: ग्रामीण पेयजल आपूर्ति योजना को स्वच्छता समिति को हस्तांतरित किया

वीवीएम द्वारा संचालित | जनसंख्या विकासक (ग्राम विकास), रायबरेली | 5 फरवरी 2026



रायबरेली में 05 फरवरी 2026 को सदर विधायक अदिति सिंह ने आज रायबरेली के विकासखंड राही स्थित ग्राम पंचायत विनोहरा में 'जल अर्पण कार्यक्रम' का उद्घाटन किया। इस कार्यक्रम के तहत ग्रामीण पेयजल आपूर्ति योजना को औपचारिक रूप से ग्राम पंचायत और ग्राम पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता समिति (VWSC) को हस्तांतरित किया गया।

Figure 57: Smt. Aditi Singh, Sadar MLA, inaugurating the Jal Arpan Karyakram at Gram Panchayat Vinohara, Vikas Khand Rahi, on 5 February 2026 | Source: DWSM Raebareli

members, reflecting the mission's emphasis on participatory and community-led water management.

Jal Mahotsav'26

As part of the national "Jal Mahotsav" campaign from 8 to 22 March 2026, Raebareli saw widespread participation across Gram Panchayats. Activities included VWSC role discussions, O&M dialogues, FTK demonstrations and water quality testing, along with awareness programmes on water conservation and pollution prevention. Cleanliness drives, discussions on groundwater recharge, rainwater harvesting and rejuvenation of local water sources. Jal Yatras (Infrastructure Walk/Transect Walk) and school-based activities such as water pledge, competitions and Prabhat Pheris further strengthened community engagement.

Jal Arpan Diwas

As part of the Jal Mahotsav celebrations, Jal Arpan Diwas was observed on 12 March 2026 at Khwajapur Gram Sabha under Salon Vidhan Sabha. The programme was presided over by MLA Shri Ashok Kumar Kori, who inaugurated a 200 kilolitre capacity water tank and an auto-



Figure 58: Jal Arpan Diwas at Gram Panchayat Vinohara, Vikas Khand Rahi, on 5 February 2026 | Source: DWSM Raebareli

Jal Arpan Karyakram - GP Vinohara

An important milestone in Raebareli's journey under the Jal Jeevan Mission was the Jal Arpan Karyakram held on 5 February 2026 at Gram Panchayat Vinohara, Vikas Khand Rahi. The event marked the formal handover of the rural drinking water supply scheme to the Gram Panchayat and VWSC, signifying a shift from government-managed systems to community-owned water governance.

The programme was inaugurated by Smt. Aditi Singh, Sadar MLA, in the presence of district officials, Panchayati Raj representatives and community



Figure 59: Prabhat Pheri During Jal Mahotsav, Gp Amraha, Vikas Khand Dalmou | Source: DWSM Raebareli



विधायक ने जल जीवन मिशन परियोजना का अनावरण किया: ख्वाजापुर ग्रामसभा में 200 किलोलीटर पानी की टंकी का लोकार्पण



जल जीवन मिशन के तहत ख्वाजापुर ग्रामसभा में जल अर्पण दिवस का आयोजन किया गया। सलोन विधानसभा के विधायक अशोक कुमार कोरी ने इस कार्यक्रम की अध्यक्षता की।

इस अवसर पर विधायक कोरी ने ग्राम पंचायत में स्थापित 200 किलोलीटर क्षमता वाली पानी की टंकी और स्वचालित सोलर वॉटर पंप का अनावरण किया। उन्होंने परिसर में अन्य व्यवस्थाओं का भी उद्घाटन किया।

Figure 60: MLA Ashok Kumar Kori inaugurating the 200 KL water tank and solar pump at Khwajapur, 12 March 2026 | Source: DWSM Raebareli

mated solar-powered pump, strengthening the local water supply system. The event witnessed active participation from district and block officials, Uttar Pradesh Jal Nigam representatives, Panchayati Raj members and the wider community. Adding to the occasion, students of Composite School Khwajapur presented Saraswati Vandana and performances on water conservation, reflecting strong community awareness and engagement.

Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen

The district has made significant progress in strengthening rural sanitation and environmental management under the Swachh Bharat Mission Gramin. Spread across 18 blocks and 980 Gram Panchayats, a vast majority of villages have been declared ODF Plus Model Villages, out of which 1,531 villages have been declared as ODF Plus Model Villages,

achieving 98.7 percent coverage. All 1,531 declared villages have successfully completed their first verification, reflecting 100 percent compliance, while 1,183 villages have undergone second verification, accounting for 98.33 percent. Under IHHL, a total of 5,08,286 toilets has been constructed, including 4,03,191 in Phase 1 and 1,05,095 in Phase 2. Additionally, 990 Community Sanitation Complexes have been established. Greywater management systems are functional in 1,534 villages, covering 98.9 percent, and an equal number of villages have achieved solid waste management coverage. Two Faecal Sludge Treatment Plants have been proposed, while two GOBAR Dhan plants have been established and are fully functional. Furthermore, for managing plastic waste, six Plastic Waste Management Units have been set up, out of which two are currently functional.

Community-Level Greywater Management through Convergence

The district has adopted a community-level approach for greywater management through convergence of resources and schemes. As part of this effort, 279 greywater treatment systems have been developed across villages, reflecting a focused move towards managing wastewater in a safe and sustainable manner. These systems include filter chamber models and waste stabilization ponds, selected based on local needs and conditions.

One such example can be seen in Bachhrawan Block, where a waste stabilization pond has been set up in Gram Panchayat Sehgon Paschim. The system collects and treats wastewater from around 142 households through two connected drains, helping improve village cleanliness while also reducing environmental and health risks.





Figure 61-62: Waste Stabilization Pond (WSP) | Source: DWSM Raebareilly

Waste Stabilization Pond Model for Greywater Treatment

Raebareilly has adopted a simple and effective approach to manage wastewater at the village level through the Waste Stabilization Pond system. This model plays an important role in preventing untreated greywater from polluting the environment while improving overall village cleanliness and public health.

Under this system, wastewater from household drains is collected, treated, and then safely released into a nearby pond. Developed as a cost-effective solution at around ₹3.67 lakh through convergence of SBM Gramin and Finance Commission funds, it ensures safe disposal and reuse of wastewater.

The impact of this intervention is clearly visible. It has reduced water stagnation and foul smell, making the surroundings cleaner and healthier for residents. The treated water has improved the condition of the pond, which is now being used for activities like duck rearing and also supports surface water recharge. Overall, the village has experienced a noticeable improvement in cleanliness and living conditions.



Figure 63: Waste Stabilization Pond (WSP) | Source: DWSM Raebareilly

Conclusion

Raebareilly district's journey under the Jal Jeevan Mission and Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin reflects one of the most significant strides in Uttar Pradesh towards universal rural water access. From a baseline of just 1.07 percent tap coverage (5,370 households) in August 2019, the district has now reached 93.46 percent (4,70,568 households). This progress stands as a strong testament to effective administrative coordination, active community participation and sustained implementation efforts.

To ensure long-term sustainability and strengthen digital systems, the

Jal Sarthi App has been integrated as an important mobile-based tool. The application enables real-time grievance redressal, transparent monitoring of water supply assets and greater community involvement in managing local water resources.

With continued focus on covering the remaining households, completing DTU reviews and further strengthening community ownership through Village Water and Sanitation Committees and Jal Sahiyas, today, Raebareilly is well-positioned to achieve the vision of "Har Ghar Jal" for all its residents.

- Copy edited by Aniketa Sattavan, NJIM



District Leadership and Community Responsibility: Reflections from the 7th Phase District Collectors' Peyjal Samvad

- Dr. Anandh K, Deputy Commissioner, Vijayapura, Karnataka



Dr. Anandh K

Ensuring access to safe and adequate drinking water is not merely an administrative mandate it is a responsibility that lies at the intersection of governance, community participation, and long-term sustainability. The 7th Phase of the District Collectors' Peyjal Samvad, held on 15th April 2026, provided an important platform to

reflect on this responsibility, assess district-level progress under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), and engage directly with senior leadership of the Ministry of Jal Shakti.

As per the communication dated 01.04.2026 from the Hon'ble Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India, the dialogue was organised for seven States, with one district selected from each of these seven States. From Karnataka, Vijayapura district was chosen for this interaction. The Hon'ble Commissioner, Rural Drinking Water and Sanitation Department (RDWSD), Bengaluru, subsequently conveyed the same to the district administration vide letter dated 07.04.2026, requesting Vijayapura district to present its progress and field-level experiences under JJM.

The Samvad witnessed participation from senior officials of the National

Jal Jeevan Mission, including Hon'ble Secretaries, Assistant Secretaries, Directors, Deputy Secretaries and Under Secretaries from the Ministry of Jal Shakti. The interaction was not merely a review exercise, but a constructive dialogue centred on sustained service delivery, water security, and accountable implementation.

District Profile and JJM Progress: A Snapshot

Starting the samvad, the district administration presented an overview of Vijayapura district, highlighting its administrative profile, demographic spread, and water resource context. The presentation outlined the number of taluks, Gram Panchayats, villages, total households, rural households and population, thereby setting the context for the district's drinking water challenges and opportunities.

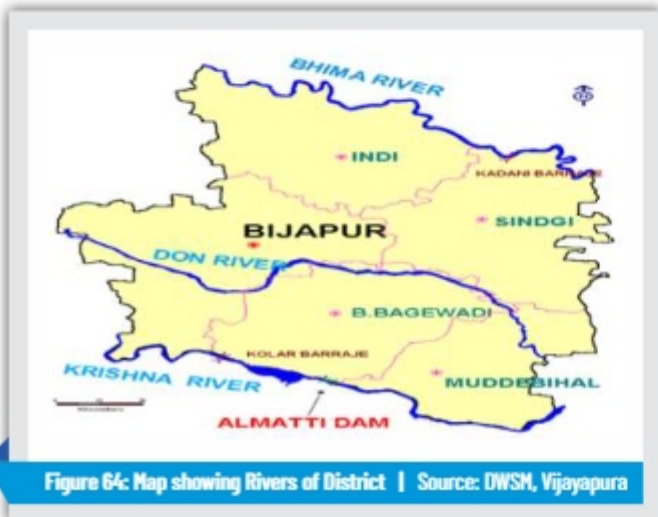


Figure 64: Map showing Rivers of District | Source: DWSM, Vijayapura



Figure 65: Map showing Rivers of District | Source: DWSM, Vijayapura



Figure 66-67: Monitoring visit by CEO Zilla Panchayat and other officials | Source: DWSM, Vijayapura

Vijayapura district, traversed by three rivers, has adopted a diversified approach towards water utilisation, combining surface water schemes, groundwater-based systems, and multi-village solutions. Under the Mission, a total of 1,000 works have been sanctioned in four batches, of which 795 works have been completed, while 205 are ongoing.

Out of 4.64 lakh rural households, 4.04 lakh households have already been provided with functional household tap connections (FHTCs). Against a total financial allocation of ₹897.02 crore, an expenditure of ₹593.09 crore has been incurred so far. These figures reflect steady progress, while also underlining the need for focused efforts on completion, quality assurance, and sustainability. Of the total works, 672 projects are being implemented under 40 Multi-Village Schemes (MVS), while the remaining 328 works fall under Single Village Schemes (SVS). MVS architecture has played a key role in addressing regional water stress and ensuring bulk water supply across clusters of villages.

Large-Scale DBOT Schemes: Building Long-Term Water Security

In addition to JJM projects,

Vijayapura district is implementing two major drinking water schemes under the DBOT (Design, Build, Operate, Transfer) model the “Brihat Bahu Gram Drinking Water Scheme” and “Jaldhare”. These schemes have a combined estimated cost of ₹3,462.63 crore.

Approximately 75% of the physical work under these projects has been completed. Upon completion, these schemes are expected to cover:

- 672 villages
- 11 Urban Local Bodies
- Around 4.28 lakh households
- A population of approximately 42.8 lakh

The projects draw about 214 MLD of water from the Almatti and Narayanpur reservoirs, establishing a dependable surface water backbone for the district's drinking water needs. These large-scale schemes are critical to reducing long-term dependence on groundwater and improving climate resilience.

Monitoring, Field Inspections and Administrative Oversight

Effective monitoring remains central to sustained service delivery. In Vijayapura district, monthly joint inspections of the pipeline network

are conducted by Panchayat Development Officers (PDOs) along with Assistant Engineers and Junior Engineers. These inspections focus on leakages, pipeline integrity, and timely cleaning and maintenance of Overhead Tanks (OHTs).

Such structured field oversight has helped in early identification of issues, improving response time, and maintaining consistent water supply. The emphasis has been on prevention rather than reactive maintenance, aligning with the larger objectives of JJM 2.0.

Senior district officials, including the CEO of the Zilla Panchayat, have also undertaken field visits to JJM works along with Engineers, Executive Officers, and PDOs, reinforcing accountability and coordination across departments.

Jal Seva Aankalan: Measuring Service Quality

Under Jal Seva Aankalan, the district has reported 15 Gram Panchayats covering 57 villages prior to the year 2024. To strengthen institutional capacity, one-day training programmes were organised for PDOs, Assistant Engineers, Junior Engineers, and Assistant Executive Engineers on the assessment framework.



Figure 68-69: Jal Seva Aankalan through Gram Sabhas | Source: DWSM, Vijayapura



Figure 70: Jal Seva Aankalan through Gram Sabhas | Source: DWSM, Vijayapura

The questionnaires have been completed at the Panchayat level, and the verification process is currently underway at the district level through the District Technical Unit (DTU). This exercise aims to shift focus from mere infrastructure coverage to service quality, reliability, and user satisfaction.

Water Quality Assurance and Laboratory Support

Maintaining water quality is a non-negotiable component of drinking water security. Vijayapura district is supported by two NABL-accredited laboratories, which regularly test water samples collected from village-level sources.

Additionally, Field Test Kit (FTK) campaigns are conducted at least

twice a year, covering all drinking water sources, schools and Anganwadis, as per State directives. These campaigns strengthen decentralised surveillance and build awareness among frontline workers and communities regarding

the importance of water quality monitoring.

The district's focus remains on integrating laboratory testing with field-level surveillance to ensure timely detection and mitigation of contamination risks.

Sustainability Measures and Community Ownership

Recognising that infrastructure alone cannot ensure long-term success, Vijayapura district has taken several steps toward sustainability. The Operation and Maintenance (O&M) policy has been made mandatory across all Gram Panchayats, with separate water-related bank accounts being maintained.



Figure 71: Celebration of 24/7 water supply | Source: DWSM, Vijayapura





Figure 72: Catchment area & borewell recharge structure | Source: DWSM, Vijayapura

Comprehensive training programmes on O&M have been provided to PDOs across all 13 taluks, strengthening their capacity to manage water supply systems effectively. Further, five villages have been declared as 24x7 water supply villages, resulting in reduced water wastage, lower pumping hours, and improved financial viability.

Under the MGNREGA scheme, recharge structures for 384 borewells have been developed over the last three years, contributing to groundwater sustainability and source strengthening. Regular meetings of Village Water and Sanitation Committees (VWSCs) continue to play a critical role in community engagement and oversight.

Recognising Grassroots Leadership

The success of Jal Jeevan Mission rests significantly on the contributions of women and community volunteers. It is a matter of pride that Smt. Channamma, a Self-Help Group representative from Vijayapura, was conferred with the “National Jal Mahotsav Award” on 11th March 2026, recognising her exemplary work and leadership in the water sector.



Her dedicated efforts in rural water supply management, community awareness and water quality testing make this a proud moment for the community.



Such recognition not only honours individual efforts but also motivates communities to take ownership of their water systems.

Sustaining Sanitation Outcomes

Alongside drinking water initiatives, Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen (SBM-G) continues to be a key focus area in Vijayapura district, with sustained emphasis on ODF-Plus Model villages, solid and liquid waste management, and sanitation infrastructure. Out of 652 villages in the district, 270 villages (41.52%) have been declared ODF-Plus Model villages, reflecting steady progress towards sustaining sanitation outcomes beyond basic toilet coverage. Verification processes are underway, with 161 villages completing first-level verification and 8 villages clearing second-level verification, indicating a gradual transition from declaration to long-term sustainability. Under Individual Household Latrines (IHHL), the district has achieved 99% coverage, with 3,05,721 toilets constructed against a target of 3,06,969, ensuring near-universal access to household sanitation facilities.

Significant progress has also been recorded in community sanitation



Figure 73-78: Waste segregation at SWM unit | Source: DWSM, Vijayapura

and waste management infrastructure. Of the 125 Community Sanitary Complexes (CSCs) sanctioned, 118 (94%) have been completed, catering especially to households facing space

constraints. The district has made consistent efforts in greywater management, with all 270 ODF-Plus villages provided with community soak pits, while 55 out of 333 inline treatment works (17%) have been completed. In the area of solid waste management (SWM), 149 out of 211 Gram Panchayats (71%) have completed SWM works. These interventions are largely implemented through convergence of SBM(G) and MGNREGA funds, enabling household-level waste collection, segregation at community units, and generation of local employment, particularly for Self-Help Group women.

Further strengthening sanitation value chains, the district has operationalised Primary Waste Management Units (PWMUs) in all



Figure 79: Waste collection from homes | Source: DWSM, Vijayapura





blocks (100% coverage) and completed one GOBAR-Dhan plant, supporting organic waste processing. In addition, 4 Faecal Sludge Treatment Plants (FSTPs) at Bijjaragi, Muttagi, Talewad and Chavadihal have been completed out of the 10 approved plants, with remaining works at various stages of implementation. These efforts collectively aim to prevent environmental contamination, improve village cleanliness, and sustain public health outcomes. The district's approach under SBM-G reflects a clear shift from infrastructure creation to behaviour change, convergence-based planning, and community-driven sanitation governance, ensuring that cleanliness and dignity remain integral to rural development.

Way Forward: From Coverage to Confidence

The deliberations during the District Collectors' Peyjal Samvad reaffirmed that the success of flagship programmes such as the Jal Jeevan Mission and Swachh Bharat Mission–Grameen lies not in parallel implementation, but in convergence, discipline, and community accountability. Vijayapura district has entered a phase where coverage achievements must be consolidated through reliable service delivery, continued behaviour change, and institutional strengthening at the Gram Panchayat level.

Going forward, the district's priority will be to integrate water supply, sanitation, and waste management planning at the village level, ensuring that functional household tap connections are matched with safe sanitation practices and environmental protection. Sustained emphasis will be placed on strengthening Operation and Maintenance (O&M) systems, regular water quality surveillance, greywater management, and solid waste segregation, so

that investments made under JJM and SBM-G translate into long-term public health and environmental outcomes.

Community institutions particularly Gram Panchayats, Village Water and Sanitation Committees, Self-Help Groups, Jal Sakhis, Nal Jal Mitras, and sanitation workers will continue to be the cornerstone of this effort. The district administration will focus on capacity building, financial discipline through transparent user-charge mechanisms, data-driven monitoring, and prompt grievance redressal. Convergence with programmes such as MGNREGA, 15th Finance Commission grants, and State-level initiatives will further strengthen asset

sustainability, source protection, and local ownership.

Ultimately, the path ahead demands a shift from scheme-centric execution to people-centric governance, where water security and sanitation are treated as shared responsibilities of the administration and the community alike. With coordinated efforts, consistent field engagement, and empowered Panchayats, Vijayapura district remains committed to sustaining the gains achieved under JJM and SBM-G and ensuring that safe water, clean surroundings, and public dignity become enduring features of rural life.

- Copy edited by Lopamudra Panda,
NPMU-NJM



Figure 80-8: Conducted "O&M Policy Adoption" Training in All Tahuka | Source: DWSM, Vijayapura



Figure 82-83: Water Quality Testing Laboratory | Source: DWSM, Vijayapura



Figure 84-86: FTK Training To VWSC Committee, Anganwadi, ASHA Workers at all Taluka Level | Source: DWSM, Vijayapura





मिज़ोरम प्रवास पर माननीय राज्य मंत्री

डॉ. राज भूषण चौधरी का दौरा:

जनकल्याणकारी योजनाओं एवं जल जीवन मिशन के प्रभाव का अवलोकन

दिनांक 7 अप्रैल 2026 को मिज़ोरम प्रवास के दौरान माननीय राज्य मंत्री डॉ. राज भूषण चौधरी ने सैतुअल जिले में जिला स्तरीय पदाधिकारियों के साथ एक महत्वपूर्ण बैठक की। इस बैठक में केंद्र सरकार द्वारा संचालित विभिन्न जन कल्याणकारी योजनाओं की प्रगति और प्रभाव की विस्तृत समीक्षा की गई। उन्होंने संबंधित अधिकारियों से योजनाओं के जमीनी क्रियान्वयन की जानकारी ली और प्रभावी कार्यान्वयन के लिए आवश्यक दिशा-निर्देश भी दिए।

माननीय मंत्री ने इस अवसर पर कहा कि आदरणीय प्रधानमंत्री जी के दूरदर्शी नेतृत्व में भारत सरकार पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों के समग्र विकास के लिए पूर्णतः प्रतिबद्ध है। उन्होंने स्पष्ट किया कि मिज़ोरम सहित समूचे पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्र के विकास हेतु केंद्र सरकार निरंतर प्रयासरत है और राज्य की प्रगति के लिए कृतसंकल्पित है।

प्रवास के दौरान माननीय मंत्री ने सिहफा गांव का भी दौरा किया, जहां उन्होंने स्थापित रेन वाटर हार्वेस्टिंग सिस्टम का अवलोकन किया। इस दौरान उन्होंने स्थानीय ग्रामीणों एवं हर घर नल जल के लाभार्थियों से संवाद स्थापित किया और जल जीवन मिशन के अंतर्गत उनके जीवन में आए सकारात्मक परिवर्तनों को समझा। ग्रामीणों ने साझा किया कि मिशन के तहत नियमित एवं सुरक्षित पेयजल उपलब्ध होने से उनके दैनिक जीवन में उल्लेखनीय सुधार हुआ है।

एक स्थानीय परिवार के दौरे के दौरान गृहणी ने बताया कि पूर्व में पेयजल पर उनका वार्षिक खर्च लगभग ₹12,000 था, जो कि जल जीवन मिशन के प्रभावी कार्यान्वयन के बाद अब शून्य हो गया है। यह परिवर्तन न केवल आर्थिक राहत प्रदान कर रहा है, बल्कि महिलाओं के श्रम और समय की भी बचत सुनिश्चित कर रहा है।

मिज़ोरम की भौगोलिक चुनौतियों के बावजूद पेयजल आपूर्ति में आए इस सकारात्मक बदलाव के लिए स्थानीय महिलाओं ने प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी का आभार प्रकट किया। उन्होंने बताया कि जल प्रबंधन, जल संरक्षण और जल सुरक्षा के क्षेत्र में केंद्र सरकार द्वारा किए जा रहे प्रयासों से ग्रामीणों के जीवन स्तर में व्यापक सुधार हुआ है।

इस दौरे के दौरान सैतुअल जिले के डिप्टी कमिश्नर, वरीय पुलिस अधीक्षक, अन्य प्रशासनिक अधिकारी, जनप्रतिनिधि एवं बड़ी संख्या में ग्रामीण भी उपस्थित रहे। माननीय मंत्री का यह दौरा न केवल योजनाओं की समीक्षा के लिए महत्वपूर्ण रहा, बल्कि इससे जमीनी स्तर पर हो रहे परिवर्तन को समझने और आगे की रणनीति को सुदृढ़ करने में भी सहायता मिली।



Figure 87-88: माननीय केंद्रीय राज्य मंत्री श्री राजभूषण चौधरी, अपने दौरे के दौरान मिज़ोरम राज्य के अधिकारियों के साथ | स्रोत: NJM



JJM's Presence in Global Policy Forums

Shri Ashok K.K. Meena, Secretary, DDWS, Ministry of Jal Shakti, participated in a panel discussion titled *“Water as Health Policy: Outcomes for Lives and Livelihoods”* during the World Bank Group–IMF Spring Meetings, held virtually on 17th April 2026.

The discussion highlighted water not merely as a basic service, but as a critical public health and human development intervention. Drawing on India's experience under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), the Secretary shared how strong political commitment, active community participation, and technology-enabled transparency have together enabled the expansion of safe drinking water access to over 81% of rural households. He emphasised that this progress has contributed significantly to improved health outcomes, enhanced livelihood opportunities, and greater gender equity.

He further noted that these achievements reflect the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of *“Har Ghar Jal”* ensuring safe and adequate drinking water for every rural household.

Nobel Laureate Prof. Michael Kremer, who also participated in the panel, highlighted global evidence linking access to safe drinking water with reductions in child mortality, improvements in public health, and gains in economic productivity. He

described JJM as a large-scale, evidence-driven initiative with strong potential to strengthen human capital, noting India's sustained political commitment in advancing water as a health priority.

The panel collectively reinforced a key message: investments in safe drinking water represent one of the highest-impact interventions for public health, livelihoods, and resilient development.



Figure 89: Secretary, DDWS sharing insights virtually in the panel discussion | Source: N.JJM



Figure 90: Panelists during discussion | Source: N.JJM

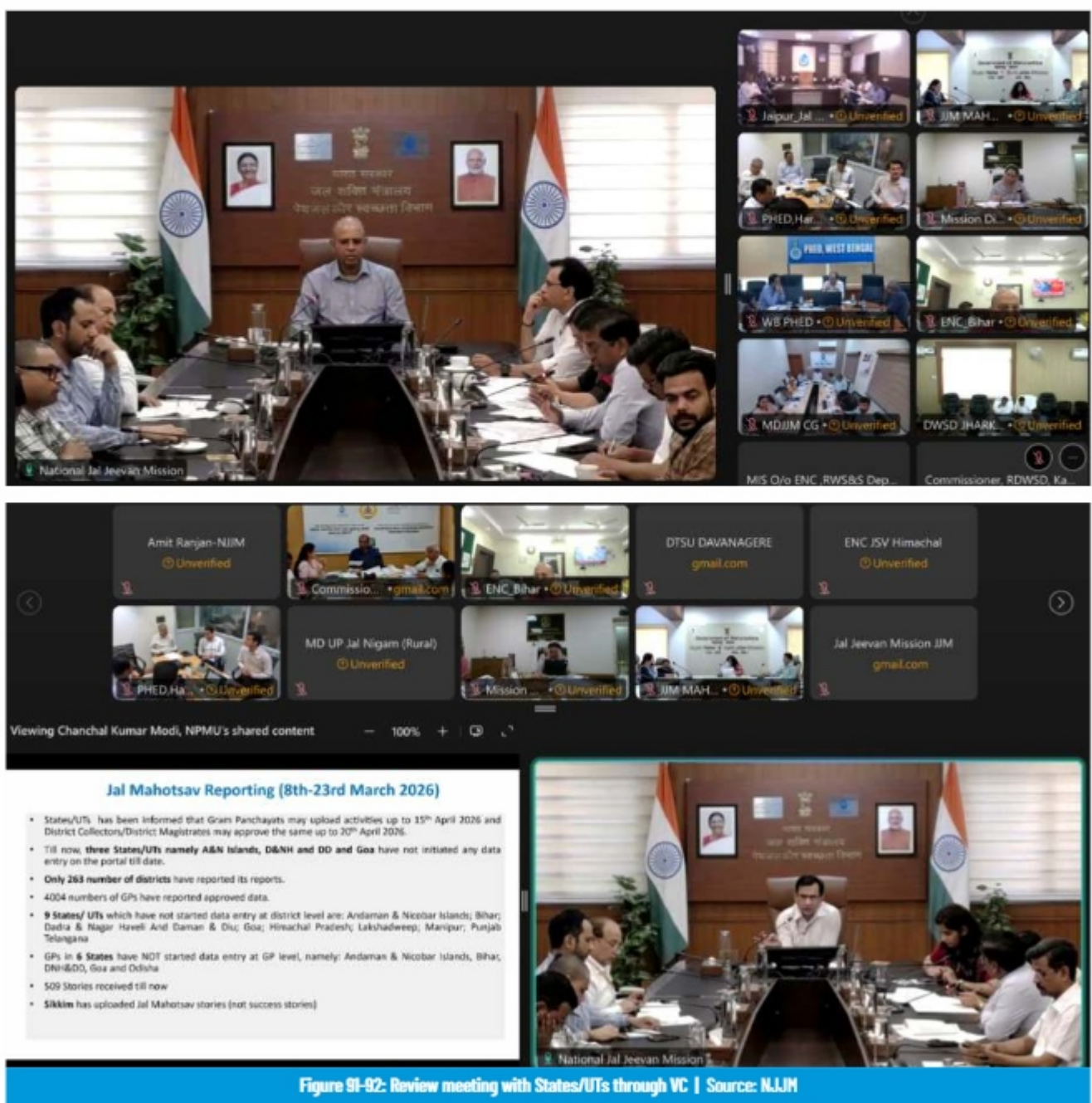


Reviews & Meetings

Review Meeting with States/UTs on Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0 Implementation

Following the Cabinet approval of Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0, Shri Ashok K.K. Meena, Secretary, Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation

(DDWS), chaired a virtual review meeting with States and Union Territories on 7th April 2026 to assess progress on reforms and the implementation status of the Mission. Emphasising the importance of timely institutional strengthening, the Secretary underlined that the signing of State MoUs and operationalisation of the O&M policy must be treated as top priorities, reiterating the principle of “No MoU, No Central Assistance.”





During the meeting, Shri Kamal Kishore Soan, AS&MD, NJJM urged States to take prompt action on key reform measures, including the signing of State MoUs, appointment of State Mission Directors, and notification and effective implementation of O&M policies. States were also encouraged to advance institutional reforms under JJM 2.0, such as the establishment of District Technical Units (DTUs) and strengthening efforts towards source sustainability and long-term service delivery.

Key reform areas discussed included:

- ◆ Recognition of Village Water and Sanitation Committees (VWSCs) as statutory committees of Gram Panchayats
- ◆ Inclusion of drinking water services under the Panchayat Service Guarantee (PSG) Act
- ◆ Implementation of commissioning and handing-over protocols through State notifications
- ◆ Creation of Sujalam Bharat IDs and strengthening expenditure reconciliation systems

The meeting witnessed active participation from Principal Secretaries, Secretaries, Managing Directors, Engineers-in-Chief, and senior officials from States and UTs, along with representatives from NJJM and the National Programme Management Unit (NPMU). The discussions reflected a shared commitment towards strengthening institutional mechanisms and ensuring sustainable, accountable, and service-oriented rural water supply systems under the Mission.

Review Meeting with North-Eastern States

Shri Ashok K.K. Meena, Secretary, Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation (DDWS), chaired a review meeting on 20th April 2026 to assess the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) across the North-Eastern States. The meeting brought together Chief Secretaries and senior State officials, reflecting the high priority accorded to strengthening rural water service delivery in the region.

The review focused on key reform areas under JJM 2.0, including the signing of reform-linked MoUs, operationalisation of Operation and Maintenance (O&M) policies, strengthening of institutional and human resource arrangements including the training of Nal Jal Mitras and enhancing district-level implementation mechanisms. Emphasising the importance of decentralised governance, the Secretary, DDWS stated, ***"It is essential that local bodies are adequately empowered to manage the schemes effectively, enabling them to meet operational targets and ensure sustained functioning. At the same time, States must provide necessary financial support to facilitate implementation."***

During the meeting, the AS&MD, National Jal Jeevan Mission (NJJM) urged States to expedite implementation through coordinated efforts and strict adherence to mission timelines. The discussions highlighted the need for



Figure 93: Review meeting with North-Eastern states through VC | Source: NJJM





Figure 94: Review meeting with North-Eastern states through VC | Source: NJJM

strengthening last-mile delivery, ensuring timely execution of works, and improving overall service sustainability.

The meeting witnessed active participation from Chief Secretaries, Secretaries (RD&PR), Managing Directors, Engineers-in-Chief, and other senior State officials. Representatives from the Ministry of Development of North-Eastern Region (MDoNER), along with Area Officers and teams from the National Programme Management Unit (NPMU), NJJM, were also present. The deliberations reinforced a shared commitment to accelerating progress and ensuring reliable, sustainable,

and equitable drinking water services across the North-Eastern region.

Review Meeting with Union Territories

Shri Ashok K. K. Meena, Secretary, Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation (DDWS), chaired a review meeting on 20th April 2026 to assess the implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) across the Union Territories.



Figure 95: Review meeting with Union Territories through VC | Source: NJJM

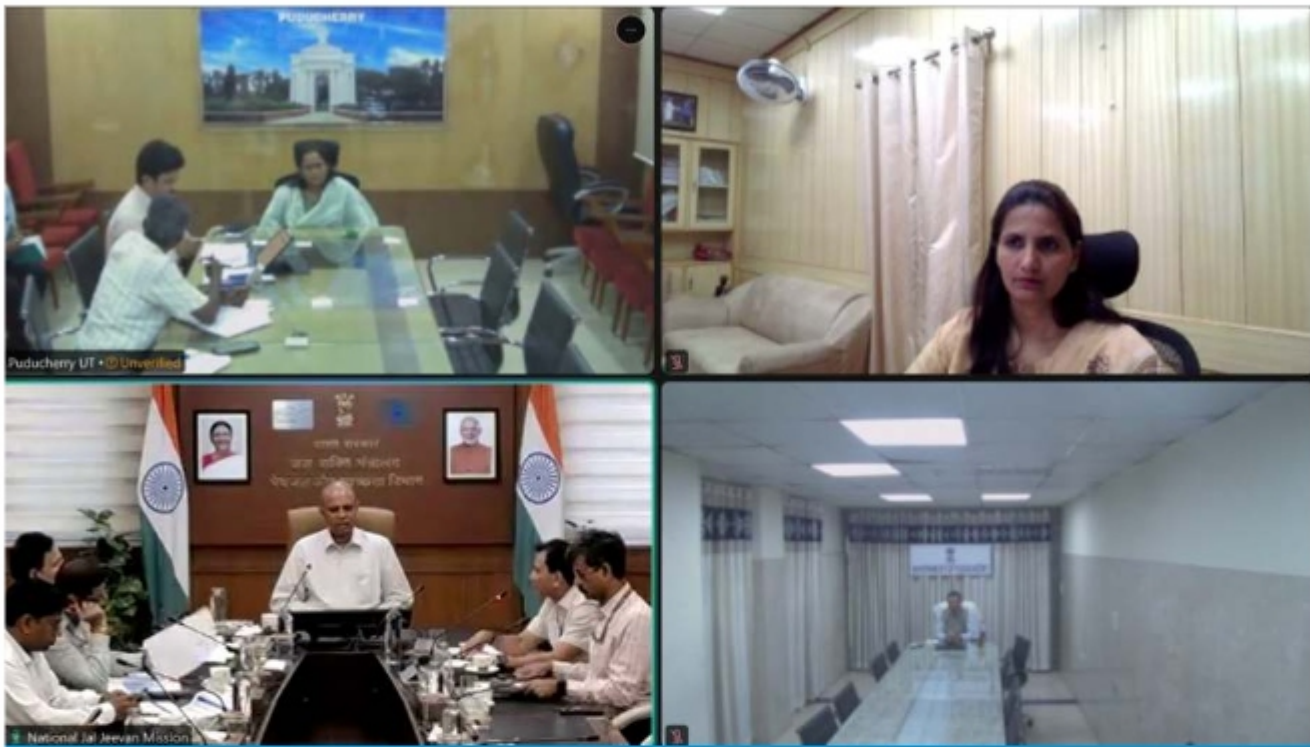


Figure 96: Review meeting with Union Territories through VC | Source: NJJM

The discussions focused on key reform priorities under JJM 2.0, including the signing of reform-linked MoUs, strengthening of Operation and Maintenance (O&M) frameworks, improving financial management practices, and enhancing monitoring mechanisms through District Technical Units (DTUs) and Jal Seva Aankalan (JSA).

Emphasising accountability and performance-driven implementation, the Secretary, DDWS stated, ***“There will be no more blanket funding from the Centre. Performance, reforms, and accountability will drive funding under JJM 2.0, ensuring that water service delivery reaches every household. Empowered local bodies are essential for sustainable O&M.”***

During the meeting, the AS&MD, National Jal Jeevan Mission (NJJM) urged the Union Territories to expedite implementation through coordinated efforts and strict adherence to mission timelines. The meeting saw participation from Secretaries (RD), Commissioners-cum-Secretaries (Labour/PHE/I&FC), Managing Directors, and other senior officials from the Union Territories. Representatives from NJJM, Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), along with Area Officers and teams from the National Programme Management Unit (NPMU), were also present.

The deliberations reinforced the collective commitment to strengthening institutional mechanisms and ensuring efficient, accountable, and sustainable rural drinking water service delivery across the Union Territories.

Orientation Session with States/UTs on Key Digital and Financial Modules

Shri Kamal Kishore Soan, Additional Secretary & Managing Director, National Jal Jeevan Mission (NJJM), chaired an orientation session with States and Union Territories on 30th April 2026, to review preparedness for the transition to Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0 and to strengthen digital and financial implementation frameworks.

During the session, States were oriented on the SNA Onboarding Form and Payment Initiation Module, with a focus on scheme-level onboarding, accurate financial data entry, and integration with the Central Payment Module to ensure timely, transparent, and traceable fund flows. Emphasis was placed on strengthening financial discipline and ensuring real-time tracking of expenditures under the Mission.





The session also covered the new features of the Sujalam Bharat App, highlighting enhanced functionalities for improved transparency, ease of reporting, and real-time monitoring. The Project Monitoring Module was discussed in detail, with a view to strengthening digital oversight, accountability, and data-driven decision-making across all levels of implementation.

States were advised to expedite financial reconciliation and reimbursements, share production URLs for system integration, and ensure readiness for upcoming State-level review meetings. The orientation under-

scored the importance of seamless adoption of digital systems to support efficient programme management and service delivery.

The meeting was attended by senior officials from States and districts, and was joined by Smt. Swati Meena Naik, Joint Secretary (Water), Directors, Deputy Secretaries/Deputy Advisers, and other officials from NJJM, along with technical teams from NIC and BISAG-N. The discussions reflected a shared commitment towards strengthening institutional readiness, enhancing digital adoption, and ensuring effective implementation of JJM 2.0.

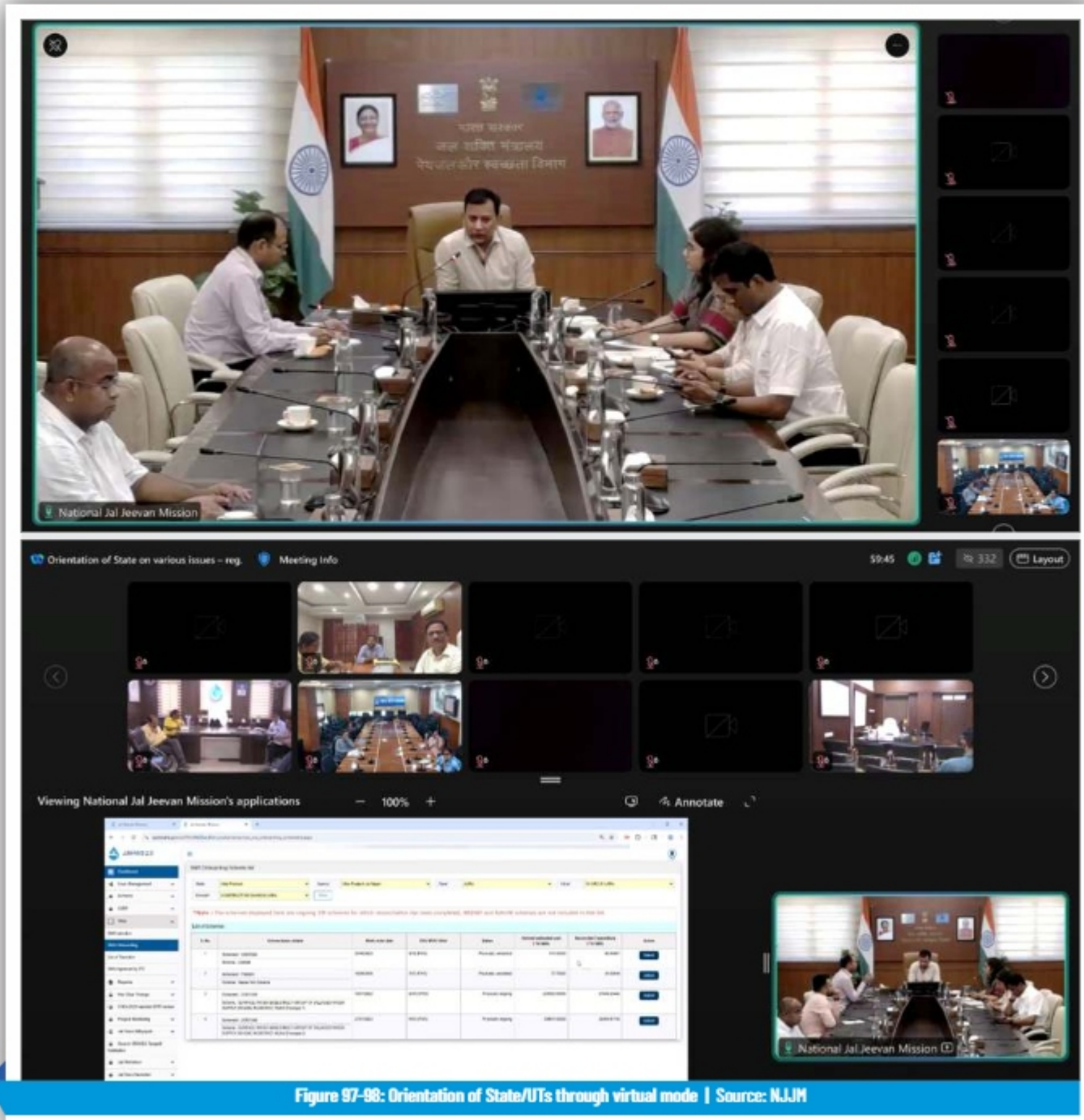


Figure 97-98: Orientation of State/UTs through virtual mode | Source: NJJM



Visits

Visit of AS&MD to East Singhbhum, Jharkhand

Shri Kamal Kishore Soan, Additional Secretary & Mission Director, National Jal Jeevan Mission (NJJM) visited **Damodih and Lakhaidih villages** of Khairbani Panchayat in East Singhbhum district, Jharkhand, an Aspirational District on 2 April 2026, to assess progress and strengthen community engagement at the last mile.

During his visit to the remote village of Damodih, predominantly inhabited by members of the **Santhal tribe**, he observed a solar-based water supply scheme that is operational in supplying tap water to the village. He interacted closely with the Jal Sahiyas, discussing the frequency of water supply, water quality practices, and community-led measures for ensuring sustainability of the system.

The visit further extended to Lakhaidih, another remote habitation, where a Single Village Scheme (SVS) is



Figure 99: AS&MD interacting with school students during visit | Source: NJJM



Figure 100: Visit to Single Village Scheme (SVS) in Lakhaidih village | Source: NJJM



Figure 101: AS&MD with tribal community during visit | Source: NJJM





providing safe drinking water to 74 households. Shri Soan interacted with village residents, including students and members of the Pani Samitis, and emphasised the importance of collective ownership, awareness, and community participation in sustaining water supply services.

The visit was accompanied by Shri Y.K. Singh, Director, NJJM, along with the Deputy Commissioner and senior State and district officials, underscoring the importance of regular field engagement in aspirational districts to strengthen implementation outcomes under Jal Jeevan Mission.

Visit of JS (Water), NJJM to Dindori, Madhya Pradesh

Smt. Swati Meena Naik, Joint Secretary (Water), National Jal Jeevan Mission, visited Dudhera village in Dindori district, Madhya Pradesh, on 3rd April 2026, to review the progress of the Jal Jeevan Mission on the ground. During the visit, she interacted with JJM beneficiaries from households and other community members, gaining first-hand insights into the impact of tap water connectivity in this tribal village. Residents shared that earlier they had to walk for more than 45 minutes to fetch drinking water, often facing significant hardship, especially for women and children.

Today, with functional household tap connections in place, safe drinking water is available at their doorstep, significantly improving quality of life and reducing daily drudgery. While visiting the households, Smt. Naik also drank water directly from the tap, demonstrating confidence in the safety and quality of water being supplied. Her interaction highlighted the importance of sustained service delivery, community trust, and on-ground verification in strengthening outcomes under the Jal Jeevan Mission.



Figure 102: JS (Water) drinking water from tap during visit | Source: NJJM



Figure 103: JS (Water) interacting with community during visit | Source: NJJM



Jal Jeevan Mission in Media

The Pioneer
INDIA WORLD BUSINESS LAWS JUSTICE SPORTS ENTERTAINMENT TECH OPINION ANALYSIS A

Centre inks MoUs with 3 States for Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0

Centre has signed separate Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with the Governments of Uttarakhand, Tripura and Karnataka under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) 2.0 to strengthen rural drinking water supply and water resource management. Union Minister for Jal, Sanitation & Drinking Water, Piyush Goyal said on Wednesday.

The Centre has signed separate Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with the Governments of Uttarakhand, Tripura and Karnataka under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) 2.0 to strengthen rural drinking water supply and water resource management, Union Minister for Jal, Sanitation & Drinking Water, Piyush Goyal said on Wednesday.

Centre stresses better implementation as Jal Jeevan Mission extended till 2028

NEW DELHI, APR 13 (PTI) The Attorney General of India on Wednesday said the Centre would now be on proper functioning, long-term sustainability and improved service delivery under the Jal Jeevan Mission, which has been extended till December 2028.

It also called for stronger monitoring in the future to ensure safe drinking water and sanitation in rural areas.

"The average was one week during the 7th District Collectors' Peyjal Samvad organised by the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS), Ministry of Jal Sanitation & Drinking Water (JSDW), which has been extended till December 2028. It also called for stronger monitoring in the future to ensure safe drinking water and sanitation in rural areas."

Reliance Limited MoUs signed with Uttarakhand, Karnataka and Tripura under Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0

MoUs between the Centre and States reaffirm cooperative framework, enabling sustainable rural water delivery through innovative systems and empowered community participation.

FBI India

The Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation (DDWS), Ministry of Jal Sanitation, organises 7th District Collectors' Peyjal Samvad

Districts Showcase Innovative Practices in Community Engagement, Water Source Rejuvenation, Smart Utilities & Greywater Management under JJM & SDM-G

Read here: <https://www.fbiindia.gov.in/>

5:02 PM - Apr 10, 2025 - 3,339 Views

AM @MAE - Apr 30

WATCH | (Agartala) On MoU between Tripura and the centre under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) 2.0, Tripura CM Mani Saha says, "...It has been extended until 2028... We had been facing a lot of problems because we started the Jal Jeevan Mission in 2019, and now it has gone above 100%. So, water facilities are still not available in many places. So, right now we are not getting money from Delhi, so we asked for it to be released so that we can reach 100% saturation point." - @MSA

DDWS Organises 7th District Collectors' Peyjal Samvad

TIT Correspondent
Information@titiindia.com

NEW DELHI: The Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation (DDWS), Ministry of Jal Sanitation, organised the 7th District Collectors' Peyjal Samvad through video-conferencing, bringing together water officials, District Collectors, Deputy Commissioners, and Mission Director in different states to showcase the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) 2.0 and Smart Utilities & Greywater Management (SDM-G) Phase 2.0 during the hot practices.

The Samvad was chaired by Ashok K.K. Meena, Secretary, DDWS, in the presence of Shri Kamal Kishore Jena, Additional Secretary & Mission Director, National Jal Jeevan Mission (NJJM), Sr. Joint Secretary & Mission Director (SDM-G), along with Senior officers from DDWS.

In his address, Secretary of DDWS, Shri Ashok K.K. Meena highlighted the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to provide safe drinking water to every rural household under Jal Jeevan Mission and ensure continuity in villages under the Jal Jeevan Mission Grams. While making the context for the meeting, he described the District Collectors' Peyjal Samvad as a vibrant and effective platform for sharing innovative ideas.

Ashok K.K. Meena further stated that leading under Jal Jeevan Mission is now closely linked to the functionality and performance of water supply schemes. He highlighted the introduction of 'AI Appas' which is the electronic hand-

... of completed water supply units to Gram Panchayats after a mandatory 15-day trial run to ensure quality and reliability. He also mentioned about 'Jal Seva Anukoolan', an innovative mechanism that enables consumers and Gram Panchayats to self-assess the quality and service levels of drinking water supply. While highlighting the importance of ensuring digital footprints of water users through 'Aadha Gas ID' and 'Digital Water App' at the Gram Panchayat level, he urged the District Collectors in ensuring effective monitoring and implementation of these initiatives and creation of the IDA at GP level.

MyGov Mumbai @mumbaimygov - Apr 30

Three major water supply schemes, Handoll, Lirong, Dhaing & Chingkarwar were inaugurated by Hon'ble CM Purnima Kherchhed Singh in the presence of Hon'ble MUA, Shyam Singh.

Strengthening safe & sustainable water access under Jal Jeevan Mission.

<https://www.mumbaimygov.com/>

5:02 PM - Apr 10, 2025 - 3,339 Views

Jal Jeevan Mission, Meghalaya @jmmeghalaya - Apr 21

Jal Gourav Samman honoured Tishow, Unsaw, Nongchophan, Jashni, Nongdewasaw & Pyndendwah for community-led water management under Jal Jeevan Mission. Nongchophan stands out for financial sustainability.

<https://www.jmmeghalaya.com/>

Jal Jeevan Mission West Khasi Hills

सफलता की कहानी

जल जीवन मिशन से संवरी बुलगा की तस्वीर, जीवन्ती बाई के घर तक पहुँचा शुद्ध पेयजल

■ समय की हो रही बचत, घर-घर पहुँच रहा शुद्ध पेयजल

■ असुरक्षित

अम्बिकापुर। झामोय अंचल में शुद्ध पेयजल की उपलब्धता सुनिश्चित करने के लिए संघीय 'जल जीवन मिशन' अब झामोय के जीवन में खुशहाली का नया आधार बन रहा है। कभी पानी के लिए लंबी दूरी तय करने वाली महिलाओं के अंगन में आज नल से जल की धार खर रही है। इन्हीं बलवय की एक बानगी सरयुवा बिले के लुण्ठ निकाराखंड अंगन का पंपावत बुलगा में देखने को मिलती है।

मीलों का सफर धमा, अंगन में आई खुशहाली

बुलगा निवासी श्रीमती जीवन्ती बाई ने बताया कि एक समय का जब पाने के साफ पानी का इंतजाम करना दिन का सबसे बड़िन कर्ष था। पानी के लिए उन्हें घर से करीबी दूर जाना पड़ता था, जिससे थकी स्मय को बचौटी और शारीरिक थकान होती थी। "पहले पानी लाने के लिए बहुत लंबा लड़ान लगना पड़ता था, लेकिन अब हमारे घर में नल का कनेक्शन लग गया है। अब सुबह और शाम दोनों वकत निर्दिष्ट रूप से शुद्ध पानी घर पर हो मिल जाता है।

समय की बचत से खेती-किसानी को मिल रहा बढ़ावा

नल कनेक्शन लग जाने से जीवन्ती बाई के परिवार के समय की बढ़ी बचत हो रही है। उन्होंने बताया कि पानी लाने में जो कस लागता होता था, अब उस समय का उपयोग वे खेती-किसानी और अन्य परेनु कार्यों में कर रही हैं। इससे न केवल उनको जीवनशैली सुधरी है, बल्कि अधिक खेती-विधियों के लिए भी अतिरिक्त समय मिल रहा है।

शासन की योजना के लिए जताया आभार

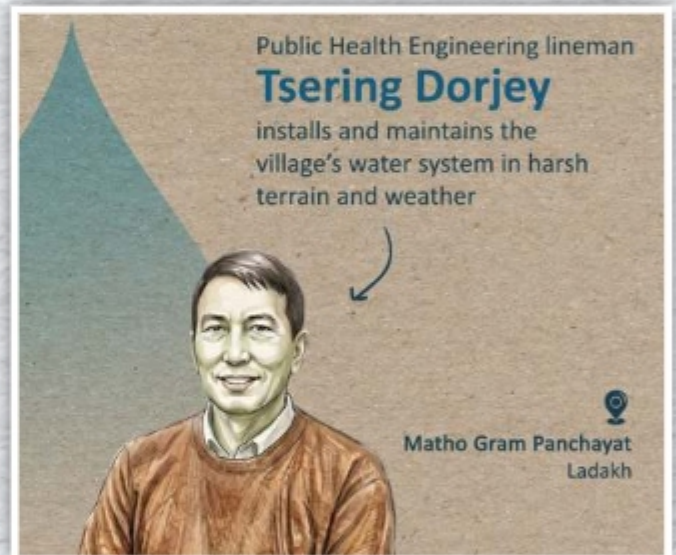
गंव के हर घर में पाइपलाइन के माध्यम से पानी पहुँचने पर जीवन्ती बाई ने हर्ष व्यक्त किया है। उन्होंने इस जनकल्याणकारी योजना के लिए प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेनु मोदी और मुख्यमंत्री श्री विष्णु देव साह का विशेष रूप से आभार व्यक्त करते हुए कहा कि सरकार को इस पाल में झामोय महिलाओं का जीवन अब पहले से कहीं अधिक सुगम और सम्मानजनक हो गया है।

मिल प्रदासन और लंबे सहायक खेती-विभाग के धर्मोत्तम प्रदासी से लुण्ठ के दूरवर्ष अंचल में जल जीवन मिशन के तथ्य तेजी से पूरे किए जा रहे हैं, लकि हर झामोय परिवार को 'शुद्ध जल-सुवध पेयजल' प्राप्त हो सके।

Stories of Change: Jal Jeevan Mission

Behind every drop that reaches us, there are hands that never stop working!

Source: PIB Social Media (<https://www.instagram.com/p/DXjYAN8FyQC/>)





जल जीवन
मिशन

नल संख्या





Har Ghar Jal
Jal Jeevan Mission

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