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Secretary



अमृत महोत्सव

भारत सरकार जल शकित मंत्रालय पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग चौथा तल, पं दीनदयाल अंत्योदय भवन सी. जी. ओ. काम्पलैक्स, लोधी रोड़, नई दिल्ली-110003 Government of India Ministry of Jal Shakti Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation 4th, Floor Pt. Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan C. G. O. Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003 Tel. : 24361011, 24362715, Fax : 24361207 E-mail : secydws@nic.in

## DO. No. WQ-11021/1/2020-WQ-DDWS

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## Jal Jeevan Mission: "Swachh Jal se Suraksha" Campaign to ensure quality of drinking water

Provision of safe drinking water, improved sanitation and better hygiene are pre-requisites for improved public health. There are a number of water-borne diseases, which can be prevented with regular water quality monitoring and surveillance. Needless to mention here that infants and children are most vulnerable to water borne diseases like typhoid, dysentery, diarrhea, cholera etc. and such repeated infections may have debilitating effects on their health.

2. Water Quality Monitoring and Surveillance activities are essential for ensuring the supply of safe drinking water, through timely preventive and corrective remedial action. As per JJM guidelines, water quality testing of 100% drinking water sources is to be done, once for chemical parameters and twice for bacteriological parameters (pre and post monsoon) in a year through laboratories. The Guidelines also envisage identification and training of at least 5 women from the local community to conduct water quality tests using FTKs/ H<sub>2</sub>S vials at village level and awareness generation on water quality issues, water borne diseases, health effects, safe handing/germ free storage etc. among all stakeholders.

3. This necessitates concerted efforts in a 'campaign mode'. Accordingly, it has been decided to launch the **"Swachh Jal se Suraksha"** on 2nd October, 2022 to ensure quality of drinking water, for which PHE/ RWS Department has to act as 'Nodal Department' for spearheading the campaign. The period of the Campaign shall be from 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2022 to 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023. The States are requested to plan and implement the Campaign, by actively involving all the stakeholders viz. Gram Panchayat and/ or its sub-committee and prepare implementation strategy to achieve the following:

- (i) Testing of all drinking water sources for chemical as well as biological contamination through laboratories in 100% villages, with special focus on water quality testing in all quality affected habitations, especially those with Arsenic and Fluoride contamination, reported as quality affected as on 01/04/2019 (as per C-17 a format). The reference period for assessing the targets, shall be financial year 2022-23.
- (ii) Testing of water quality using FTKs and H<sub>2</sub>S vials in 100% schools and anganwadi centres, and at least 3 samples in each village at the household level, for residual chlorine, bacteriological contamination and for other parameters, through women trained for FTK testing.

- (iii) To undertake **prompt remedial measures** in **all** such cases where a water source from which piped water supply is being given, or where the water supplied at the household level, is found to be contaminated.
- (iv) Wherever the remedial action cannot be taken through disinfection at local level, suitable temporary measures, such as installation of Community Water Purification Plants etc., must be taken latest by the end of Campaign period. Necessary approvals must be accorded for permanent solution for such habitations through development/augmentation/retro-fitting of alternative safe ground water sources or through bulk water transfer from other villages/ schemes.
- (v) Marking of all contaminated sources other than the safe source, through which water is being supplied, as 'not fit for drinking purpose', and geotagging of such sources too, on the JJM-IMIS.
- (vi) Geo-tagging of 100% water sources on the JJM-IMIS, at the time of sample collection, wherever not already done.
- (vii) Identification and training of at least 5 women in every village, preferably including at least one ASHA Worker and one Anganwadi Worker, for water quality testing using FTKs/ H2S vials.
- (viii) **Display of water quality testing results** using FTKs, H<sub>2</sub>S vial and lab testing, in the prescribed template, in 100 % villages at prominent place *i.e.* GP building, Anganwadi Center, health centre, schools etc. The template shall be shared separately by this Department.

4. It is suggested that the following aspects may be taken into account for successful implementation of the "Swachh Jal se Suraksha" Campaign –

- (i) The residual numbers for various targets may be worked out in view of the norms for water quality testing under the JJM, i.e., testing of 100% drinking water sources, once for chemical parameters and twice for bacteriological parameters (pre and post monsoon) in a year through laboratories, and for FTK training and testing through FTKs, based on para 3(v) and 3(vi) above. For each of these components the residual targets for the Campaign period shall be based on the status as on 01.04.22 and the work already reported up to 30.09.22 on the JJM-WQMIS/ JJM-IMIS.
- (ii) Assessment of targets as mentioned in para 4(i) above, should be done keeping in view that the targets and the progress under the Campaign shall be reviewed only on the basis of information reported by states on the WQMIS. Therefore, updation of progress regularly, preferably on day-to-day basis must be done at JJM-WQMIS/ JJM-IMIS, throughout the Campaign period.
- (iii) Arrangements and logistics for the FTKs, lab consumables and disinfectants, may be reviewed and arranged to ensure that the tests are conducted as per targets and to ensure that prompt remedial action is taken for disinfection of sources found to be contaminated.

- (iv) Arrangements for training of women for FTK testing should be planned well in time to ensure that all the required trainings are conducted in the Campaign period.
- (v) Suitable IEC campaigns may be implemented by States/UTs to create awareness among representatives of the Panchayati Raj Institutions and communities, about the Campaign, quality of ground water in their respective village, for avoiding use of water from sources marked as 'not fit for drinking purpose', and for safe and hygienic usage of the tap water supplied at the households. Special drives may also be taken in schools and anganwadis, based on local context and need.

5. It is requested that concerted efforts are made for implementation of the **"Swachh Jal se Suraksha"** Campaign, in a time bound manner. Successful implementation of the Campaign shall also lead to increased confidence and awareness among people about the quality of water being supplied through the PWS. Please also take note that due weightage shall be accorded to performance under the Campaign while undertaking the assessments for the Jal Jeevan Awards 2023.

6. I look forward to successful implementation of **"Swachh Jal se Suraksha"** Campaign in your State/UT.

Warm regards

Yours sincerely,

(Vini Mahajan)

Addl. Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary/ Secretary, Rural Water Supply/ Public Health Engineering Department, (All States/ UTs)

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