



National Jal Jeevan Mission
Government of India, Ministry of Jal Shakti
Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation

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

Dated May 12, 2021

To,

Addl. Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary/ Secretary

Rural Water Supply/ PHE Department,
(All States/ UTs)

Subject: Water quality monitoring & surveillance activities under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) to ensure potable drinking water to every home and public institutions in villages- reg

Madam/ Sir,

Safe drinking water, improved sanitation and better hygiene are pre-requisite for improved public health. In the wake of CoVid-19 pandemic, criticality of public health including preventive action, is well understood. There are a number of water-borne diseases, which can be prevented with regular water quality monitoring, surveillance by community, sanitary survey and timely remedial action. This not only saves people especially children falling sick but also helpful in saving precious lives.

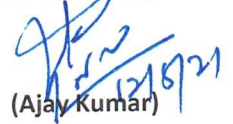
2. In this context, focussed implementation and primacy to water quality monitoring & surveillance (WQMS) activities is absolutely necessary to ensure safe drinking water supply to every home and public institutions, timely identification of water-borne health risks and taking preventive/ remedial measures, awareness generation on various aspects of water quality issues, safe handling and storage of water in homes, etc. among all stakeholders including every household, has become very critical for ensuring public health.

3. Acknowledging the importance of water quality monitoring and surveillance, provisions have been made in the Operational guidelines for the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission that every year all drinking water sources are to be tested once for chemical contamination and twice for bacteriological parameters (pre and post monsoon). Further, for water quality surveillance, States have been advised to identify and train 5 women in each village from local community viz. ASHA workers, health workers, VWSC members, teachers, etc., to conduct water quality tests using FTKs/ bacteriological vials at village level, schools and anganwadi centres.

4. The Jal Jeevan Mission – Water Quality Management Information System (JJM – WQMIS) has been developed in partnership with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Dept of Health Research (DHR) as an online portal along with mobile application for water quality management. This was launched by Hon'ble Union Minister, Jal Shakti on March 13, 2021. The link to access JJM-WQMIS portal is <https://neer.icmr.org.in/website/main.php>. All water quality testing data i.e. sample collection, tests results both in laboratories including mobiles labs and through water quality testing kits, etc. are to be uploaded on this JJM – WQMIS. Needless to mention here that this will go a long way in helping you to have readily available data/ history of every drinking water source and take necessary remedial action to ensure potable water supply to every home.

5. Further, you should also ensure that the current status of all drinking water sources of the State are updated in the JJM – IMIS, for which a format has been developed and provided as a part of YDU for the updation of status of drinking water sources whether functional/non-functional/not in use, etc. This aspect is of critical importance.
6. As you are aware, under Jal Jeevan Mission, 2% of the total allocation is allocated for water quality monitoring & surveillance activities. This fund should be utilized and setting up of laboratories, its upgradation, hiring human resources, kits, equipment, training, IEC, etc. are taken up on urgent basis.
7. In view of this, all States/UTs are requested to ensure the following:
- i.) In every state/ UT, there has to be a State/ UT level laboratory and in bigger States/ UTs, State/ UT level laboratories should be set up in different regions so that all nearby sources are tested regularly. Further, all districts must have a district-level laboratory and setting up of the same should be accorded highest priority;
 - ii.) All state/ regional and district level laboratories are to be made fully functional and it is mandatory to get them NABL accredited. All sub-division/ block level laboratories are to be verified by NABL and get NABL recognition;
 - iii.) conduct water quality testing of all drinking water sources once for chemical contamination and twice for bacteriological contamination (Pre and Post monsoon) and regular water quality testing using FTKs at village level, schools and anganwadi centres. Needless to mention here that in every village minimum 5 persons should be trained and Field-Testing Kits (FTKs) are made available in every village. Also, reporting of water quality sample collection/ testing at laboratories and by using FTKs is to be done on JJM–WQMIS portal only;
 - iv.) to avoid water-borne diseases becoming widespread and life-threatening especially during the monsoon and have major health impacts especially among infants and children, it is advised to take all necessary measures for effective water quality monitoring & surveillance with special focus on areas that have witnessed water-borne diseases in the past;
 - v.) Appropriate and effective IEC activities and training should be taken on priority to bring high level of awareness on various aspects of safe drinking water sources, critical role of improved sanitation and hygiene to have better public health;

Yours sincerely,



(Ajay Kumar)
Director(WQ)

Copy f.w.c. to: Engineer-in-Chief/ Chief Engineer/ Member-Secretary/ Mission Director in-charge of Jal Jeevan Mission, Rural Water Supply/ PHE Department, All States/ UTs for information and necessary action.