



JAL JEEVAN MISSION

A CAUCUS RESEARCH REPORT

Caucus: The Discussion Forum
Hindu College, University of Delhi_



About Caucus

Caucus is the discussion forum of Hindu College, University of Delhi. It was founded in 2007 as a college society for providing the students of the college a platform for expressing their views. Over the course of time, it has eveloved and furthered its primary goal of pursuing intellectual excellence. The role of discussions has paramount importance in the process of learning and unlearning. Caucus aims at facilitating it. It has been an active college society which organises regular group discussions, round table discussions, speaker sessions, manages a blog for its members, publishes a monthly magazine - The Probe, organises the annual intellectual fest of Hindu College - Compass and functions as the international cell of the college.





Contributors



Anirudh Mehta
Member, Caucus



Chavi Gogna
Member, Caucus



Rahul Singh Panwar
Member, Caucus



Sahil Abhichandani
Member, Caucus



Vagmi Singh
Member, Caucus

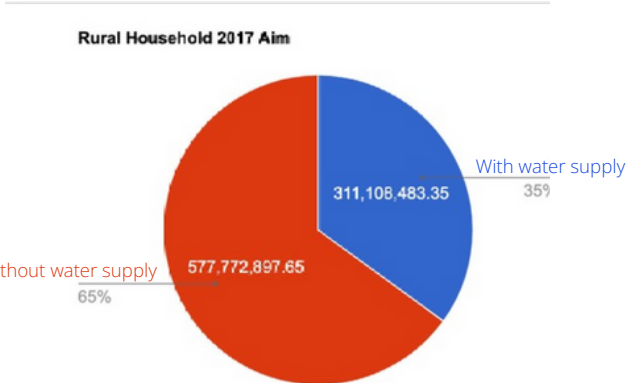




What is Jal Jeevan Mission?

The predecessor of the Jal Jeevan Mission, the National Rural Water Drinking Programme, was launched in 2009. It aimed to supply 35% of rural households with piped water Supply by 2017. Yet, In 2018, 80% of Rural households in India did not have Piped water connections. A Basic facility such as Piped water was unavailable in majority rural areas. Worst still, the number of new connections taken every year had a decreasing trend. Around 2.4 lacks Cr was being spent on various water supply improvement schemes. NRWDP was successful merely in providing hand pumps and other facilities but not piped water supply. The PM announced his Government plans to resolve this issue on 15 Aug 2019. The Jal Jeevan Mission began under the newly formed Jal Shakti ministry aiming for "har ghar jal" by 2024. The mission aims to supply 55 liters of water per person (called a Functional Household Tap Connection FCTH) via pipes in all rural households. Another target of the mission is to maintain and ensure the functionality of the existing water supply systems and connections. Previous governmental plans were criticized for not being able to instill a sense of ownership in the beneficiaries of water supply programs, causing poor management.

JJM strives to ignite a "jal andolan" and to create a community-managed and decentralized system that will create a sense of ownership and accountability among its beneficiaries.



Aim of JJM

Women have 50% membership in the committees which manage local water supply (Paani Smaitis), as many of them no longer have to travel miles on foot to obtain water, they are among the primary beneficiaries. Their role in the management ensures superior maintenance hence, longevity. In complete contrast to the past situation when only 5 states had above 50% pipe water availability in households now, 5 states have 100% available. Now 53% of the Indian rural households have tap water availability. As the once laborious task of fetching water will no longer be a challenge, people will be able to engage themselves in other productive activities.





For supplying the necessities of life, the programme will have repercussions for the social and economic conditions of rural India; the programme will have an impact on the social and economic conditions of rural India; an exhaustive analysis of the project is given below. 1. NITI Aayog, Composite Water Management Index, 2018. 2. Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Performance Audit of National Rural Drinking Water Programme, 2017.

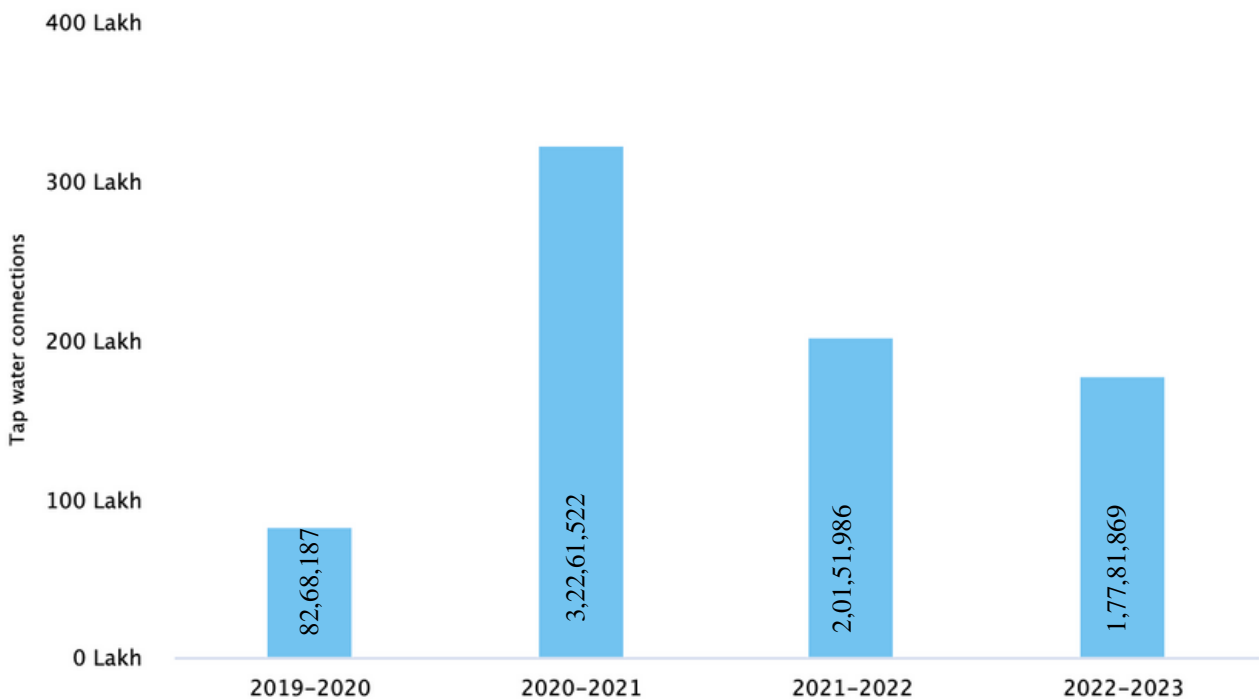


Scope

The mission aims to provide tap water connections and safe drinking water to all rural households in the country, with an emphasis on sustainable water management methods like rainwater collection to every rural household by 2024. Only one in six of the households had clean tap water when the mission started but now the number has reached over 52 percent, clean water accessibility prevents a lot of diseases, in a country where millions of people die due to waterborne diseases, women had to walk kilometers just to access clean drinking water, an initiative like the Jal Jeevan mission was necessary. India now has 7 states and union territories that have 100 percent household water connections. 4 states have crossed the 90 percent barrier under the Jal Jeevan mission by laying new pipelines, repairing leaks, and installing taps.

Repair and Upgradation of Existing Infrastructure

The repair and upgradation of existing water supply systems are being executed through a combination of central and state government funding, as well as community participation and public-private partnerships, The existing schemes were mostly funded by the government. Existing water sources are being upgraded to provide a regular and sufficient supply of water also, the existing distribution network is being repaired, upgraded, and extended to reach more households, This involves laying new pipelines, repairing leaks, and installing taps.



Technological Interventions

The use of technology has been critical to the success of JJM. IMIS (Integrated Management Information System) was created as the single point of contact for all mission-related data. A JJM dashboard has also been implemented to monitor all key parameters of the grievance regime and procedure. Geolocation is used to monitor system progress at grade level. A mobile application has also been launched for efficient data collection and better dissemination of Information. The Government has also developed the Rashtriya Jan Jeevan Kosh (RJK) portal for individuals/organisations to make a donation for the provision of drinking water in a village of their choice. Social networks and webinars (such as the Jal Jeevan samvaad) are used for communication in connection with mass understanding. The use of modern technology within the system is a realisation of the vision of Hon'ble PM Narendra Modi's Digital India.

Decentralized Water Management

Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his address to the nation on 2nd October 2021 called the Jal Jeevan Mission "A movement for decentralization". This is evident from the mission's focus on empowering the village community for water resource management in the village and water supply infrastructure. The financing

model has also been designed so that the center and the State contribute 50-50% (except for North Eastern States and Hilly areas). The effect of decentralization can be seen from the fact that nearly 1.5 lakh villages in 107 districts have benefited from this programme. A UT like Jammu and Kashmir has been allocated 9289 crores under the mission and a large state like UP has just crossed the milestone of 7.5 million water connections along with Maharashtra, Gujrat, and Bihar. Bihar has the highest connections (1.68 crores) under the JJM scheme. As a result, there was an appropriate spread of water connections, and number of Connections were not biased to a state or area.



Involvement of Community

Embodying the Gandhian spirit the scheme Reflecting the spirit of Gandhian, the project seeks to instill a sense of ownership in its beneficiaries. This feature was missing from the previous 2009 National Rural Drinking Water Program and became a major reason for its failure. The scheme provides for 10% of the total fund to be contributed by the members of the village. Contributions may be payable in cash or kind (or work). This provision has been maintained in all villages, except for hilly areas and northeastern states. Not just common folk but even the respective Member of parliament of these districts have actively participated in the District Level District Development Coordination & Monitoring Committee (DISHA) of the Ministry of Rural Development and their participation has truly made the Jal Jeevan Mission a Jan Andolan. The positive public perception of the mission has not only given it more impetus but has been instrumental in inculcating a feeling of Nationalism and Patriotism in the community

Challenges

Despite being a noble cause, the Jal Jeevan Mission faces several hurdles that threaten its success, we know that India's groundwater sources are depleting rapidly and an increased demand for water for this mission may lead to over-extraction of groundwater, leading to its depletion in some areas of the most water-stressed states like Madhya Pradesh. Secondly, providing running water e.

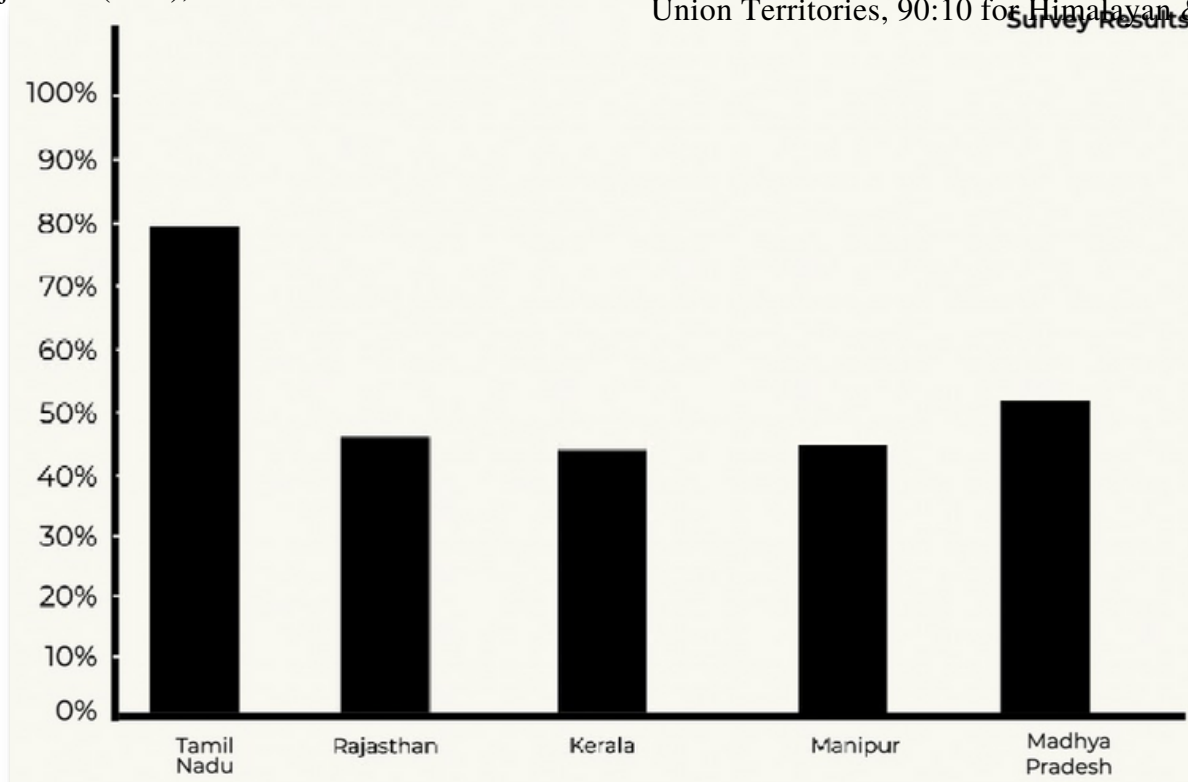
to each rural household is only the first step, the real challenge is to ensure the maintenance and operation of the infrastructure. Lack of maintenance may result in outages and affect household water supply. Finally, the lack of responsibility towards the usage of water and towards the infrastructure through which the water is supplied could lead to the wastage of water and deterioration of the infrastructure



Capital Invested

The Jal Jeevan mission was allocated 69,684 crores, up from the 54,808 crores the ministry is expected to spend in the fiscal year 2023-24. That represents an increase of about 27 percent. The ministry of Jal Shakti tweeted that 11% of rural households were connected to tap water. This resulted in approximately 56 percent of the 19.3 million households targeted. By September 2022, 53% of households, or 10.2 million households, had received coverage. In October 2022, a Ministry-commissioned survey of a cross-section of rural households reported that Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh, Goa, and Puducherry had more than 80% of households with fully functional connections below national averages for India as a whole (82%). It also found that less than half the households in Rajasthan (47%), Kerala

(45%), Manipur (46%), Maharashtra (49%), Madhya Pradesh (51%) Mizoram (48%), and Sikkim (49%) had such connections. By March 31, 2020, total financial expenditures for the Jal Jeevan mission amounted to 3.60 lakhs crores. Centre financed 50 % of the cost, with the States and territories of the Union paying the whole bill, with the exception of the territories of the Union without a legislature, where they paid only 30 %. The northeastern States and the Himalayas and the territories of the Union with the legislatures paid 90% of the bill. Under JJM, the fund-sharing pattern between Centre and States/ UTs is 100% for Union Territories without legislature, 90:10 for North Eastern & Himalayan States and UTs with the legislature, and 50:50 for the rest of the States. Further, under Support and Water Quality Monitoring System (WQMS) activities, the funding pattern is 100% for Union Territories, 90:10 for Himalayan &



North Eastern States, and 60:40 for other States. The funds are shared under the provisions of Section 3 (1) (a) of the JJM Act, 2016 which states that "the Central Government shall provide financial assistance to any State or Union Territory having a Legislature". The funds are shared following the provisions of Section 3(2) of the JJM Act, 2016 which states that "each State or Union Territory having a legislature shall receive its share from time to time according to its needs". JJM provides funding through its programs, namely Drinking Water Programme (DP), Sanitation Programme (SP), Urban Sanitation Programme (USP), Rural Sanitation Programme (RSP), Solid Waste Management Programme (SWMP), Solid Waste Management Infrastructure Development Programme (SWIMD), Drinking Water Supply.

The Government of India has allocated 30% of the fund to be spent on areas under the Desert Development Programme (DDP) and Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP). The remaining 70% will be spent in accordance with the mission's target parameters. Mission priorities include areas that are difficult to develop because of their location in deserts, areas prone to drought, and areas dominated by SC/ST. These areas have been prioritized because they are densely populated and require additional assistance. Emphasis is also placed on villages falling into drought-prone districts, or districts with high levels of migration. In addition, certain categories of villages have been prioritized as "Aspirational" or "JE-AES-affected districts; these are villages that may not be able to meet their basic needs without support from government

organizations or NGOs. Finally, priority was given to the Sansad Aadarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) villages and water-affected dwellings, which are eligible for both drinking water supply and sanitary facilities.

Collaboration

Since April 4, 2022, the National Jal Jeevan Mission has been working with UN agencies such as UNICEF and UNOPS to work on potable water projects. They seek to establish partnerships with non-governmental organisations, voluntary organisations, and charitable foundations in the same sector. The mission focuses on capacity development and training of their sectoral partners. They have also established partnerships with many governmental and non-governmental organisations and institutes to ensure that they have access to the best experts in the field. Currently, 109 Sector Partners have signed MoUs or Work Plans with the Department as of April 4th, 2022. 104 government and non-government organisations/universities/training institutes are impaneled as Key Resource Centres under Jal Jeevan Mission for providing leadership training in the states/UTs for effective implementation of the mission.



Summary

The Jal Jeevan mission launched in 2019 by the government of India has had a significant impact in the clean water supply in rural areas, when the mission was announced the baseline number for coverage was 3.23 crore and the estimated number of households to be benefited was 17.8 crore, recently ₹69,684 crore has been allocated (67% hike) which is expected to be spent in the current financial year with the aim to provide piped water to every rural household by 2024.



References

1. NITI Aayog, Composite Water Management Index, 2018.
2. Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Performance Audit of National Rural Drinking Water Programme, 2017.
3. <https://www.unicef.org/india/what-we-do/clean-drinking-water>
4. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1814481>
5. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1807827>
6. <https://www.thehindu.com/business/budget/budget-2023-with-deadline-approaching-jal-jeevan-mission-gets-a-sharp-hike-in-funds/article66459348.ece/amp/>
7. <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/12/21/world/asia/india-water-modi.html>



