



Jal Jeevan Mission

Manish Kumar¹, Neelam Singh Rajpoot¹, *Abhishek Garhwal² and Shivani Thakur³

¹M.Sc. Scholar, Department of Extension Education, Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur, M.P., India

²Ph.D. Scholar, Department of Entomology, Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur, M.P., India

³Ph.D. Scholar, Department of Agronomy, Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur, M.P., India

*Corresponding Author's email: garhwalabhishek77@gmail.com

JJM, or the Jal Jeevan Mission a basic human right, access to safe drinking water which is essential to community growth and well-being (**United Nations, 2010**). With an emphasis on sustainability and community involvement, Prime Minister Narendra Modi introduced the program on August 15, 2019, during his Independence Day speech. It aims to provide Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTCs) that will supply every rural household with at least 55 liters of water per capita per day (lpcd) by 2024.

By combining technology, community involvement and multi-level governance, this ambitious program tackles persistent issues with rural water delivery such as scarcity, contamination and unequal distribution. Up from just 3.23 crore upon start, JJM has connected over 15.72 crore rural homes as of October 2025—representing more than 81% coverage—with a further 12.48 crore connections.

Even though India's economy has grown significantly and advanced in many areas, a sizable section of the country's rural population still had difficulty getting safe drinking implementation tactics, obstacles encountered (**Bongirwar and Dahasahasra 2022**). It will investigate how much progress has been made in increasing access to tap water, as well as how this has affected people's quality of life. In the past, rural communities—especially women—had to bear the burden of carrying water from far-off and frequently contaminated sources, which presented health hazards and impeded socioeconomic advancement (**Khairnar et al., 2020**).

In August 2019, the Indian government initiated the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), a revolutionary project to distribute drinkable tap water to rural homes and public institutions, after realizing how urgent it was to solve this critical issue (**Ministry of Jal Shakti, 2020**). According to the UN, having access to safe drinking water is both a basic human necessity and a fundamental human right (**United Nations, 2010**). However, millions of people in rural India lack access to safe water sources, making clean drinking water a recurring problem (**Panda et al., 2019**). Most Indians are dependent on outside sources for drinking water, with only 17% of rural homes having tap water connections, according to the Census of India (**Census of India, 2011**).

This circumstance hampered rural communities' general growth in addition to having an impact on their health and well-being. The goal of the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) is to supply every rural Indian family with a functional tap water connection by 2024 (**Sharma et al., 2021**). Leaving no one behind is the Mission's main goal, with an emphasis on the most impoverished, disenfranchised, and unreached segments of society. The JJM places a strong emphasis on decentralized planning and execution to accomplish this goal. (**Singh et al., 2023**).

Implementation Strategy

Implementation is decentralized and community-driven:

- With assistance from the Ministry of Jal Shakti, states and UTs take the lead in creating district-level action plans based on village surveys.
- Local implementation is handled by general practitioners (GPs) and Village Water and Sanitation Committees (VWSCs), with women's self-help groups (SHGs) being crucial to management and oversight (e.g., 24.80 lakh women trained on Field Testing Kits throughout 5.07 lakh villages).
- Functionality surveys, third-party audits, and real-time dashboards are used for monitoring.
- convergence with health measures to prevent outcomes like 14 million Disability-Adjusted Life Years (DALYs) and 4 lakh diarrheal deaths, as well as employment programs like MGNREGA, which could create 3 crore person-years of work.
- As of October 2025, 192 districts, 1,912 blocks, and more than 2.66 lakh villages had reached full saturation, while 11 states/UTs (such as Goa, Haryana, and Gujarat) had reached 100% household coverage. 9.23 lakh schools and 9.67 lakh Anganwadi centers are included in the institutional coverage.

Despite the JJM's lofty objectives and efforts, its ease of living and gender empowerment in rural communities must be critically examined. All things considered, the Jal Jeevan Mission represents the government's dedication to inclusive and sustainable development and is a ray of hope for rural India. The Mission contributes to the advancement and prosperity of the country by giving rural populations access to safe drinking water, which improves their general well-being, economic prospects, and health (**Bongirwar and Dahasahasra, 2022**).

Mission

JJM's mission is multifaceted, focusing on assisting, empowering, and facilitating states and Union Territories (UTs) in the following areas:

- Creating participatory rural water supply strategies to ensure sustainable access to clean drinking water for all households and public institutions.
- Constructing infrastructure to provide FHTCs with consistent water supply and quality.
- Facilitating the planning, implementation, management, ownership, operation, and maintenance of in-village water delivery systems by rural communities and Gram Panchayats (GPs).
- Building strong institutions using a utility-based strategy to guarantee service provision and long-term financial viability.
- Building stakeholder capacity and educating the public about the significance of clean water for a high standard of living.
- Assembling funds so that governments and UTs can successfully carry out the mission.

Objectives

- To regularly and permanently supply each rural household with Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTC) of the required quality (BIS: 10500) and sufficient amount (55 lpcd).
- To give priority to providing FHTCs in quality-affected areas, villages in desert and drought-prone areas, villages under the Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY), etc.
- To supply schools, Anganwadi centers, GP buildings, health centers, wellness centers, and community facilities with functioning tap connections
- To keep an eye on tap connections' functioning.
- To encourage and guarantee the local community's voluntary ownership through financial, kind, and/or labor contributions as well as voluntary labor (shramdaan).
- To help ensure the water supply system's sustainability, including the water source, infrastructure, and funding for routine O&M.

- To empower and develop the sector's human resources to meet the short-term and long-term needs of construction, plumbing, electrical, water quality management, water treatment, catchment protection, O&M, etc.
- To bring awareness on various aspects and significance of safe drinking water and involvement of stakeholders in manner that make water everyone's business.

Funding and Progress

The Center (60%) and the states (40%) split the ₹2.08 lakh crore (₹2,08,652 crore) national outlay for JJM, with greater Center shares for special category states. In order to maximize resources, funds are released in accordance with progress, with a focus on convergence. The mission will have almost completely used its allotment by October 2025, which will accelerate its growth. Although the 2024 aim was mostly achieved in terms of coverage, further efforts concentrate on equity, functionality, and digital improvements (such as finishing the RPWSS module by November 2025), making sure that no rural family is left behind. (Ministry of Jal Shakti, 2020).

References

1. United Nations (2010). Resolution adopted by the General Assembly: 64/292. The human right to water and sanitation.
2. Khairnar MR, Wadgave U, Shimpi R, and Gore AD (2020). Potable water accessibility in rural India: A review. *International Journal of Environmental Science and Technology*, 17(1), 105–124.
3. Panda A, Patra AK, and Mohanty BP (2019). Safe water access in rural India: A study on availability, quality and utilization. *Journal of Rural Studies*, 28-70, 42.
4. Ministry of Jal Shakti (2020). Jal Jeevan Mission: Guidelines for implementation.
5. Census of India (2011). Provisional population totals- Rural-urban distribution and slum population: Census 2011. Office of the Registrar General & Census Commissioner, India.
6. Sharma SK, Seetharaman A and Maddulety K (2021). Framework for sustainable urban water management in context of governance, infrastructure, technology and economics. *Water Resources Management*, 35(12), 3903-3913.
7. Singh P, Shokeen S and Mishra M (2023). Issues And Challenges In Implementation Of Jal Jeevan Mission and Best Practices Adopted For Water Resource Sustainability In Hilly Region Uttarakhand.
8. Bongirwar PL and Dahasahasra S (2022). Innovative Arch Type Bridge Cum Bandhara for Economical and Quick Implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission. In *Recent Trends in Construction Technology and Management: Select Proceedings of ACTM 2021* (pp. 449-466). Singapore: Springer Nature Singapore.