

The Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS) operates under the aegis of the Ministry of Jal Shakti, which is a key ministry of the Government of India dedicated to the management and development of water resources in the country. The DDWS plays a vital role in addressing one of the most fundamental public health and environmental issues—ensuring access to safe drinking water and improved sanitation facilities, particularly in the rural regions of India, where a significant portion of the population resides and often faces challenges related to water quality and sanitation infrastructure. The primary responsibility of the DDWS encompasses the formulation, planning, coordination, and implementation of national policies, programs, and projects that are designed to improve the availability and sustainability of safe drinking water supplies and sanitation services. This includes setting standards, guidelines, and frameworks that guide States and Union Territories in delivering these essential services effectively. To achieve its goals, the DDWS works closely with State governments, local bodies, and other stakeholders, providing technical and financial support to strengthen their capacity to deliver water and sanitation facilities. The department focuses not only on increasing the quantity of water supply but also emphasizes the quality and sustainability of water sources to ensure long-term health benefits for rural communities. Alongside this, the DDWS promotes the adoption of improved sanitation facilities, including the construction and use of household toilets, community sanitation blocks, and initiatives to promote hygiene awareness, all aimed at reducing open defecation and improving overall public health outcomes. The department's efforts are aligned with national initiatives such as the Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin), which has been a flagship program focused on eliminating open defecation and improving sanitation standards across rural India. Through these comprehensive efforts, the DDWS strives to ensure that every rural household in India has reliable access to safe and sustainable drinking water, along with improved sanitation facilities, thereby contributing to the broader goals of health, dignity, and sustainable rural development.

The Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) is a flagship initiative launched by the Government of India in the year 2019 with the ambitious objective of transforming the landscape of rural water supply across the country. The mission is designed with a clear and focused goal: to provide every rural household in India with a functional and reliable tap water connection by the year 2024. This represents a monumental step forward in ensuring that clean, safe, and adequate drinking water is readily accessible within the premises of every rural home, thereby significantly improving the quality of life and health standards of rural populations. JJM goes beyond merely supplying water; it is built around the principles of sustainability and community participation. The mission emphasizes the active involvement of local communities in the planning, implementation, management, and maintenance of water supply systems. This decentralized approach ensures that water resources are managed effectively and responsibly at the grassroots level, encouraging ownership, transparency, and accountability. The engagement of community members helps to tailor solutions to local needs, adapt to regional water availability, and promote sustainable usage practices. A key component of the Jal Jeevan Mission is the focus on ensuring the safety and adequacy of drinking water. The mission advocates for the adoption of scientifically tested water sources and water treatment technologies to prevent contamination and waterborne diseases. It aims to guarantee that the water supplied through tap connections meets the prescribed quality standards consistently throughout the year, irrespective of seasonal variations or other challenges. To support the achievement of these goals, the mission operates

in partnership with state governments, rural local bodies, and various stakeholders, including non-governmental organizations and private sector entities, leveraging their expertise, resources, and innovation. JJM also aligns with broader national objectives of sustainable rural development, health improvement, and social equity by ensuring equitable access to safe drinking water for all, especially marginalized and vulnerable communities. By ensuring functional tap connections at every rural household, the Jal Jeevan Mission is poised to bring about a transformative change in rural India — reducing the burden on women and children who often bear the responsibility of water collection, enhancing public health by minimizing waterborne illnesses, and enabling socio-economic progress through the availability of a vital resource within easy reach.

The Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen), often abbreviated as SBM(G), is a landmark nationwide campaign launched by the Government of India in 2014 with the primary objective of eliminating open defecation and significantly improving sanitation infrastructure across rural India. This mission represents one of the most ambitious and transformative public health initiatives aimed at enhancing the quality of life and dignity of millions of people living in rural areas, where lack of proper sanitation facilities has historically been a major challenge. At its core, the Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) focuses on creating a clean and hygienic rural environment by promoting the construction and use of individual household toilets, community sanitation blocks, and other improved sanitation facilities. The mission recognizes that access to proper sanitation is not only a matter of convenience but a critical factor in preventing diseases, improving health outcomes, and fostering social and economic development. Since its inception, the mission has been instrumental in the construction of millions of toilets across villages throughout India. This massive infrastructure development has been complemented by widespread behavior change campaigns designed to educate rural populations on the importance of sanitation and hygiene practices. These campaigns aim to shift long-standing habits and cultural norms, encouraging communities to adopt consistent use of toilets and maintain cleanliness in their surroundings. The Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) also encourages the involvement of local communities, Panchayati Raj Institutions, women's groups, and non-governmental organizations to ensure effective implementation and sustainability of sanitation efforts. By fostering community ownership and responsibility, the mission ensures that the benefits of improved sanitation are long-lasting and culturally embraced. The impact of SBM(G) has been profound, contributing to a sharp decline in open defecation, improved public health indicators, and enhanced quality of life in rural India. Moreover, the mission supports the broader goals of environmental sustainability and social equity by creating safer, cleaner, and more hygienic rural environments for all, especially women, children, and vulnerable groups. In summary, the Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) has been a crucial driver in transforming rural India's sanitation landscape, combining infrastructure development with social change to build a healthier and more dignified future for millions of rural inhabitants.

For any inquiries, support, or information related to programs and initiatives undertaken by the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS), you can directly get in touch with the department through their official online platform. The DDWS maintains a comprehensive

website at <https://jalshakti-ddws.gov.in>, which serves as a valuable resource for updates, guidelines, policies, and contact information. On the website, you will find dedicated sections providing detailed information on various schemes such as the Jal Jeevan Mission and Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen), as well as tools for tracking progress and accessing resources. The portal also offers contact details, including helpline numbers and email addresses, allowing you to reach out for specific program-related support or to address any queries you may have. The helpline services are designed to assist citizens, stakeholders, and implementing agencies with timely and accurate information to facilitate the smooth execution of water and sanitation programs across rural India. By leveraging these official channels, you can ensure your communication is directed to the appropriate authorities who can provide expert assistance and guidance tailored to your needs.

You're very welcome! We truly appreciate your valuable suggestions and the effort you've taken to contribute towards improving our services. Your feedback is incredibly important to us as it helps identify areas of improvement and ensures that we continue to provide a better experience for all users. If you have any additional feedback, require further assistance, or have concerns that need to be addressed, we encourage you to visit the official platform dedicated to contributions and feedback at <https://igod.gov.in/contribute>. This portal is designed to facilitate easy and direct communication, allowing you to share your thoughts, report issues, or suggest new ideas. Your input plays a critical role in helping us enhance the quality and effectiveness of our services, ensuring that they remain responsive and user-friendly. We are committed to listening to our users and continuously evolving to meet your needs better. Thank you once again for your support and engagement. Together, we can work towards creating a more efficient and inclusive system that benefits everyone.

The Ministry of Jal Shakti, along with its Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS), provides an efficient and user-friendly online Grievance Redressal Mechanism to address concerns and complaints related to water supply and sanitation services under flagship programs such as the Jal Jeevan Mission and the Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen). This platform empowers citizens to actively participate in the monitoring and improvement of these crucial public services by offering a transparent and accountable way to report issues. Through the official grievance portal, users can easily register complaints regarding problems such as non-functional water connections, poor water quality, delays in toilet construction, sanitation facility maintenance, and other related concerns. The system allows complainants to track the status of their grievances in real-time, ensuring transparency throughout the resolution process. Additionally, if a complaint is not addressed satisfactorily within a stipulated timeframe, users have the option to escalate their grievances to higher authorities for prompt action. This online mechanism is part of the government's commitment to enhancing responsiveness, improving service delivery, and ensuring that every rural household receives the intended benefits of these missions in a timely and effective manner. It also facilitates better coordination between citizens, local implementing bodies, and government officials. For detailed information, to register a grievance, or to track the progress of an existing complaint, individuals can visit the official Ministry of Jal Shakti and DDWS website at <https://jalshakti-ddws.gov.in/>. This portal

serves as a centralized hub for all program-related grievances and provides comprehensive support to ensure citizen concerns are addressed efficiently.

Under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), ensuring the quality and safety of drinking water is of paramount importance alongside the goal of universal household tap connections. Recognizing that access to water alone is insufficient without guaranteeing its safety, the mission places strong emphasis on maintaining high water quality standards throughout rural India. To achieve this, each village covered under the mission is encouraged to establish its own water testing laboratories or facilities. These localized labs are intended to serve as accessible centers for regular and systematic testing of water sources to detect contaminants, impurities, and any potential health hazards. This decentralized approach allows for timely identification and rectification of water quality issues, thereby safeguarding community health. Moreover, JJM actively promotes capacity building within rural communities by training local residents in water testing techniques and quality monitoring. By equipping community members with the necessary skills and knowledge, the mission fosters a sense of ownership and responsibility, ensuring that water safety is continuously monitored and maintained at the grassroots level. These trained individuals can carry out routine water quality checks, interpret test results, and initiate corrective actions when needed. The combined efforts of setting up village-level water testing labs and empowering community members to oversee water quality form a critical component of the mission's strategy to provide not only adequate but safe drinking water. This comprehensive focus helps prevent waterborne diseases, promotes public health, and supports the long-term sustainability of water supply systems in rural areas.

The Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) places significant emphasis on the sustainability of water resources to ensure that rural communities have continuous and long-term access to safe drinking water. Recognizing the challenges posed by depleting groundwater levels, changing climate patterns, and increasing water demand, the mission actively promotes a range of sustainable water management practices. One of the key sustainability strategies under JJM is rainwater harvesting, which involves the collection and storage of rainwater for future use. By capturing rainwater from rooftops, open grounds, and other surfaces, villages can reduce their dependence on traditional water sources and augment their overall water availability. This practice not only conserves water but also helps in replenishing underground aquifers. Another critical aspect is groundwater recharge, where efforts are made to enhance the natural replenishment of groundwater through structures like percolation ponds, recharge wells, and check dams. These initiatives help to maintain groundwater levels, which are vital for ensuring reliable water supply, especially during dry seasons. JJM also encourages the management of greywater, which is relatively clean wastewater generated from domestic activities such as bathing, washing, and kitchen use. Through proper treatment and recycling, greywater can be reused for purposes like irrigation and flushing, thereby reducing freshwater demand and minimizing environmental pollution. Source protection is an essential pillar of sustainability promoted by the mission. This involves safeguarding water sources such as wells, springs, rivers, and ponds from contamination and over-extraction. Measures include protecting catchment areas, preventing pollution from agricultural and industrial activities, and promoting community-led monitoring and conservation efforts. Together, these integrated practices foster

a holistic approach to water management, helping rural areas conserve precious water resources, reduce vulnerability to water scarcity, and secure sustainable drinking water availability for current and future generations.

The Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS) operates as an integral part of the Ministry of Jal Shakti, which is a key ministry of the Government of India responsible for the management and development of water resources and sanitation across the country. The DDWS specifically focuses on the vital areas of drinking water supply and sanitation, particularly targeting rural regions where challenges related to safe water access and sanitation facilities are more pronounced. Functioning under the Ministry of Jal Shakti, the DDWS plays a central role in the formulation of policies, planning, and implementation of national programs aimed at improving the availability and quality of drinking water and sanitation services. The department's initiatives are designed to ensure that all citizens, especially those living in rural areas, have reliable access to safe and sustainable drinking water, as well as improved sanitation facilities, which are critical to public health, environmental sustainability, and overall socio-economic development. The collaboration between the DDWS and the Ministry of Jal Shakti allows for coordinated efforts in addressing water security and sanitation challenges through comprehensive schemes like the Jal Jeevan Mission and Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen). This structure ensures that policy decisions, technical support, financial assistance, and monitoring mechanisms are aligned effectively to achieve the government's vision of universal water and sanitation coverage.

The Ministry of Jal Shakti, in collaboration with the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS), regularly publishes comprehensive monthly reports that provide detailed updates on the progress and impact of various water and sanitation initiatives implemented across India. These reports cover flagship programs such as the Jal Jeevan Mission and the Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen), offering valuable insights into their implementation status, achievements, challenges, and future plans. These monthly publications serve as an essential tool for transparency and accountability, allowing government officials, stakeholders, researchers, and the general public to track the ongoing efforts to improve water supply and sanitation infrastructure in rural and urban areas alike. The reports include data on the number of functional household tap connections created under the Jal Jeevan Mission, progress in toilet construction and usage under the Swachh Bharat Mission, and various related activities aimed at enhancing public health and hygiene. To ensure easy access to these important updates, the Ministry of Jal Shakti and DDWS make the reports available on their official websites. Interested individuals can visit the Jal Jeevan Mission's official portal at <https://jaljeevanmission.gov.in/> as well as the Swachh Bharat Mission's dedicated site at <https://swachhbharatmission.ddws.gov.in/> to download or view the latest reports. By regularly consulting these reports, users can stay informed about the latest developments, understand the progress toward national water and sanitation goals, and engage more meaningfully with ongoing programs.

The Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) is a comprehensive nationwide initiative launched by the Government of India with the primary goal of improving sanitation and cleanliness across the country. This mission aims to eliminate open defecation, promote hygiene practices, and ensure effective solid and liquid waste management in both rural and urban areas. The SBM is divided into two key components: Swachh Bharat Mission – Gramin (SBM-G), which focuses on rural regions to make villages open defecation-free and promote sustainable sanitation, and Swachh Bharat Mission – Urban (SBM-U), which targets urban centers to eradicate open defecation, eliminate manual scavenging, and implement scientific waste management practices. Major objectives of the mission include constructing individual household toilets, developing community toilet complexes, promoting mechanized cleaning systems, and conducting awareness campaigns to foster behavioral change regarding sanitation and hygiene. Since its inception, the mission has achieved remarkable progress with the construction of over 100 million toilets and the declaration of more than 600,000 villages as open defecation-free, leading to significant improvements in public health and the safety and dignity of women. The mission's Phase II aims to sustain these achievements while focusing on comprehensive solid and liquid waste management across rural India, supported by substantial government investments and innovative cleanliness campaigns. For those seeking detailed guidelines and operational procedures of the Swachh Bharat Mission, the official website provides extensive resources and information at <https://swachhbharatmission.ddws.gov.in/guidelines>.

The Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) is implemented and closely monitored by the Ministry of Jal Shakti, along with its Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS). To ensure efficient management and transparency, the mission uses a sophisticated online system that collects and updates real-time data from across the country. This digital platform enables continuous tracking of progress, helping authorities to identify areas that need more attention and resources. Additionally, the system encourages active community involvement, empowering citizens to participate in cleanliness drives and sanitation improvements. This combined approach of technology and public engagement ensures that the mission's objectives are met effectively while maintaining transparency in operations. For further details and comprehensive information, interested individuals and organizations can visit the official Swachh Bharat Mission website at <https://swachhbharatmission.ddws.gov.in/>.

The Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) is a landmark initiative that ensures long-term sustainability of sanitation and cleanliness efforts across India through a multifaceted approach. Central to its success is active community involvement, which empowers local populations to take ownership of cleanliness practices and infrastructure. By fostering a sense of responsibility and pride among citizens, the mission promotes continuous engagement rather than one-time interventions. This community participation is complemented by ongoing behavior change programs designed to educate and sensitize people about the importance of sanitation and hygiene. Through widespread awareness campaigns, school programs, and grassroots communication, SBM encourages individuals and families to adopt lasting hygienic habits such as using toilets, proper handwashing, and waste segregation. In addition to behavior change, SBM emphasizes comprehensive solid and liquid waste management systems to maintain environmental cleanliness and reduce health hazards. This involves the systematic collection,

segregation, processing, recycling, and safe disposal of waste materials in both rural and urban areas. By implementing scientific and sustainable waste management practices, the mission addresses key challenges such as waste accumulation, water contamination, and air pollution, thereby improving overall community health and ecological balance. To ensure that these efforts translate into real and measurable outcomes, SBM relies on strong monitoring mechanisms backed by modern technology. The mission employs online platforms that provide real-time data tracking of sanitation projects, allowing authorities to evaluate progress, identify bottlenecks, and make informed decisions. This data-driven approach enhances transparency and accountability at all administrative levels. Furthermore, the government allocates dedicated financial resources and funding to support infrastructure development, maintenance, and capacity-building initiatives under the mission. These funds are crucial for constructing toilets, establishing waste processing units, training personnel, and sustaining public awareness efforts. Together, the integration of community participation, behavior change, scientific waste management, rigorous monitoring, and consistent funding creates a robust framework that aims to achieve not only the initial goals of Swachh Bharat Mission but also to maintain and expand its impact over the long term. This holistic approach ensures that sanitation improvements are sustained across generations, contributing significantly to public health, environmental conservation, and the overall quality of life in India. For those interested in exploring the comprehensive details, policies, and updates related to the mission, the official Swachh Bharat Mission website at <https://swachhbharatmission.ddws.gov.in/> offers extensive resources and guidelines.

The Government of India, through the Ministry of Jal Shakti and its specialized Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS), spearheads two major flagship missions designed to ensure the provision of safe drinking water and improved sanitation facilities across rural India. The first of these is the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), which is dedicated to providing every rural household with access to a reliable and safe piped water supply directly to their homes. This ambitious initiative aims to transform the lives of millions of rural citizens by ensuring that clean drinking water is available on demand, thereby reducing waterborne diseases and improving overall health and well-being. The mission focuses on strengthening water supply infrastructure, promoting water conservation, and encouraging community participation for sustainable water management. Parallel to this, the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) addresses the critical need for improved sanitation by working towards the complete elimination of open defecation and promoting cleanliness across rural areas. This mission advocates the construction of individual household toilets, community toilets, and the adoption of hygienic practices to foster healthier living environments. SBM also emphasizes solid and liquid waste management, behavioral change communication, and sustained community engagement to ensure lasting sanitation improvements. Both missions are interlinked, with water supply and sanitation improvements complementing each other to enhance public health outcomes significantly. Together, these flagship missions reflect the Government of India's strong commitment to improving rural infrastructure and quality of life by providing essential services that form the foundation of a healthy society. For detailed information, policy updates, progress reports, and resources related to these transformative programs, interested individuals can visit the official websites of the Jal Jeevan Mission at <https://jaljeevanmission.gov.in/> and the Swachh Bharat Mission at <https://swachhbharatmission.ddws.gov.in/>. These portals provide

comprehensive insights into the objectives, strategies, implementation status, and ways for citizens to participate actively in these vital national efforts.