

Times of India- 03- October-2021

# Jal Jeevan mission driven by villages, women: PM

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** With the country adding over five crore rural households with tap water connections in the past two years under the Centre's flagship Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), PM Modi on Saturday said JJM's vision was not just to provide water but it was also a "big movement of decentralisation".

"This is a village-driven women-driven movement," said the PM, while virtually addressing the village water and sanitation committees (VWSCs) on Gandhi Jayanti. The VWSCs are a key component of implementing the JJM, which aims to provide tap water connections to all rural households by 2024.

He underlined how the JJM was in sync with Mahatma Gandhi's dream of 'Gram Swaraj' (village self-governance). The PM launched a dedication fund to tap private donors to give a boost to the Mission through public participation, and released a mobile App for improving awareness among stakeholders and for greater transparency and accountability of schemes under the JJM.

Deccan Herald- 03- October-2021

# Groundwater rejuvenation project gives livelihood, respect to traditional well-diggers

Their knowledge of city's hydrogeography a big factor in implementing the project

BENGALURU, DHNS

**W**hen machines replaced manual labour in construction and irrigation sectors in the last two decades, the Mannu Vaddars who traditionally dug wells went out of business.

The earth-diggers, a sub-sect of the Bhovi community, are getting gradual recognition as Bengaluru begins to grapple with the water crises and urban floods. The recharge wells they dug up in different city neighbourhoods are beginning to ensure water security, besides ensuring them much-needed income even amidst the raging pandemic.

Scattered largely along the peripheral areas of Anekal and Sarjapur, the community has been digging the recharge wells as part of the 'Million Wells' campaign initiated by Bengaluru-based Biome Environmental Solutions together with Friends of Lakes and other like-minded groups.

The community members have collectively dug about two lakh wells across Bengaluru that has replenished the city's groundwater table.

The pandemic may have slowed down the pace of digging the wells, but the community has gone on steadily besides desilting the existing ones. Their work in Sarjapur Road, Bellandur Lake catchment area, Lalbagh and



Workers dig a recharge well at JP Park, Mathikere. DH PHOTO/S K DINESH

Cubbon Park has started to yield results.

"Besides recharging the groundwater table, we also wanted to ensure livelihood for this community members," explained Vishwanath S, director of Biome Environmental Solutions. "More than 1,000 families live around Bengaluru. Their deep traditional knowledge and understanding of Bengaluru's hydrogeology contributed to building the recharge wells."

C Pedhanna, a member of the Mannu Vaddar community from Anekal, alone has more than 3,000 recharge wells to his credit in the last two years.

Friends of Lakes co-founder Ramprasad said the community knows the art of digging, something they have been doing for gener-

ations. "By involving all of them in the programme, our idea was to ensure at least Rs 2 lakh worth income to a family every year," he said.

Well-digger Narayana said it takes one day for a five-member team to dig a single recharge well.

"The wells with a diameter of three to four metres goes to the depth of 12 to 15 feet, ideally," he said, as he dug a well at JP Park. "It also depends on the soil we are digging. If we come across a rock, there will be delays."

A typical recharge well with a depth of 15 to 20 feet will cost around Rs 30,000 to Rs 35,000. The earth diggers fill the recharge wells with pre-cast concrete rings and fill the surrounding with 40 mm stone jelly. The top

of the well is sealed with a silt filter and a mesh to prevent anybody from falling in.

"It takes about just one hour for the earth to absorb 10,000 litres of water," explained Jayaram another earth-digger.

Besides digging wells, the earth-diggers have also rejuvenated and desilted old open wells that could help percolate even more water underground.

Receiving 600 mm to 1,000 mm annual rainfall, Bengaluru can ideally recharge its groundwater table with 80 per cent of rainwater. "The city requires about 10 lakh recharge wells and our aim is to have one recharge well in every alternative property," Vishwanath explained.

"Today, with over two lakh recharge wells, Bengaluru has the highest recharge wells among all the metropolitan cities in India. The overall rain percolation rate in Bengaluru ranges from three to eight per cent due to heavy concretisation of the surface. Our objective is to increase this to at least 50 to 60 per cent with these recharge wells," he further explained.

## One-stop solution

The recharge wells have also become a one-stop solution to prevent urban flooding. "During heavy rains, some parts of Cubbon Park used to be inundated and remain marshy for over a month.

"But now, all that stagnant water is absorbed into the earth by these wells and the land becomes normal in less than two to three days," Ramprasad said.

"Similarly, in Peenya, a well was stopped at about 10 feet after we hit a rock. But the rock had cracks and it absorbed water within three hours of the well filling up," he added.



Indian Express- 03- October-2021

# PM's message for women: Soon, you won't have to travel for water

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 2

OBSERVING THAT each household in 1.25 lakh villages across 80 districts is now getting tap water, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said that the day is not far when no woman in the country will have to walk long distances every day to fetch water.

Addressing a gathering through video conference on the occasion of the launch of the Jal Jeevan Mission App and Rashtriya Jal Jeevan Kosh, the Prime Minister said, "Since Independence to 2019, only 3 crore households in the country had access to tap water. However, Since the launch of Jal Jeevan Mission in 2019, 5 crore households have been connected to tap water connections."

"Today, every household in about 1.25 lakh villages in about 80 districts of the country is getting water from tap. The work that was done in the last 7 decades, today's India has done more work than that in just 2 years."

*"Wo din door nahin jab desh ki kisi bhi behen-beti ko paani laane ke liye roz roz door door tak paidal chal kar nahin jaana hoga. Wo apne samay ka sadupyog apni behata-ree, apni padhai-likhai, ya apne roj-gaar par usko shuroo karne mein kar paengi"* (The day is not far when no woman in the country will have to walk long distances every day to fetch water. They will be able to utilise their time for their betterment, education or employment)," Modi said.

"Empowerment of women in villages is one of the top priorities of our government," the Prime Minister said.

"We have seen many movies, read stories and poems detailing how the women and children of the village have to walk miles and miles to fetch water... Why does the water not reach these people?



PM Narendra Modi pays tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on his birth anniversary, at Rajghat in New Delhi, Saturday. Amit Mehra

EXPLAINED

## E. Focus on women as a constituency

From toilets in every home and school, to affordable sanitary pads and nutrition support during pregnancy and immunisation, the government has taken many steps to strengthen what the Prime Minister called 'Matra Shakti'. Most of the 2.5 crore houses built in villages are in the name of women, Ujjwala has relieved women of smoke-filled life, women are being integrated with Atmanirbharta mission through self-help groups, and these groups have increased three fold in the last seven years, the PM reminded his audience, comprising primarily people from states bound for the elections next year.

I think those who had the responsibility of policy-making for a long time should have asked this question to themselves," the Prime Minister said.

The Prime Minister said, "A long time has passed, 75 years of Independence, now we have to move very fast. We have to ensure that the situation of transporting water by tankers or trains to any part of the country does not arise again... For this we have to continue our work on war footing," Modi said.

Stating that many areas in the

country face the problem of polluted water, the Prime Minister said that at one time, the number of tap connections in the 61 districts of the country affected by encephalitis was just 8 lakh. Today, it has increased to more than 1 crore 11 lakh, he said. He said that the number of tap connections in aspirational districts has increased from 31 lakh to more than 1 crore 16 lakh.

The Prime Minister also interacted with five Pani Samiti (water committees) and gram panchayat members.

Asian Age- 03- October-2021

# Under Jal Jeevan Mission, 5cr houses got water line: Modi

New Delhi, Oct. 2: Since the launch of the Jal Jeevan Mission in 2019, five crore households have got water connection and now tap water is reaching every household in about 1.25 lakh villages, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday, asserting that today's India has done more work in just two years than what was done in seven decades. Speaking after interacting with gram panchayats and pani samitis/village water and sanitation committees (VWSC) on the Jal Jeevan Mission, PM Modi said the mission is not just about bringing water to people but it is also a decentralisation movement that is village and women-driven.

"From the time of Independence till 2019, only three crore households in our country had access to tap water. Since the launch of the Jal Jeevan Mission in 2019, five crore households were provided with water connections," he said.

"Today, water is reaching every household in about 1.25 lakh villages in about 80 districts of the country. That is, today's India has done more work in just two years than what was done in the last seven decades," he said.

In aspirational districts, piped water connections have risen from 31 lakh to over 1.16 crore, the Prime Minister said.

Mr Modi said it has to be

**IN ASPIRATIONAL** districts, piped water connections have risen from 31 lakh to over 1.16 crore, the Prime Minister said

ensured that the situation of bringing water to any part of the country through tankers or trains never arises.

In an apparent dig at previous Congress dispensations, he said for a long time those who were responsible for policy-making lived in abundance of water.

They had water at their homes and in their swimming pools, Modi said.

"They had not seen poverty and it was just an attraction for them. It was just a means for them to show off knowledge. They should have strived for an ideal village but they kept liking the shortcomings in the villages," he said.

The Prime Minister also launched the Jal Jeevan Mission app for improving awareness among stakeholders and for greater transparency and accountability of schemes under the mission.

He also launched the Rashtriya Jal Jeevan Kosh, where any individual, institution, corporate or philanthropist, be it in India or abroad, can contribute to help provide tap water connection in every rural household, school, anganwadi centre, ashramshala and other public institutions. —PTI



New Indian Express- 03- October-2021

# More households got tap water in two years than past 7 decades: PM

Asserts water is reaching every household in 1.25 lakh villages in 80 districts across India

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

MORE work had been done towards providing tap water to households in the last two years than what was done in previous seven decades, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday while unveiling Rashtriya Jal Jeevan Kosh (RJJJK).

"From Independence till 2019, only three crore households in the country had access to tap water. Since the launch of Jal Jeevan Mission in 2019, five crore households have been connected with water connections. Today, water is reaching every household in about 1.25 lakh villages in about 80 districts of the country," he said.

The coverage in aspirational districts has increased from 31 lakh to 1.16 crore, the PM added. "In just two years, more work has been done than was done in the last seven decades,"



PM Modi interacts with Village Water and Sanitation Committees on Saturday | PTI

said the prime minister.

Any individual, institution, corporation or philanthropist can contribute to the RJJJK to help provide tap water to households. The platform to allow do-

nations is aimed to help boost the provision of tap water to schools, Anganwadi centres, spiritual shelters and other public institutions.

The PM also interacted with

gram panchayats and paani samitis/Village Water and Sanitation Committees on 'Jal Jeevan Mission'.

Speaking about the initiatives of his government in the rural areas, Modi said measures like toilets in every home and school, affordable sanitary pads, nutrition support during pregnancy and immunisation had strengthened the "Matra Shakti (women power)".

"Most of the 2.5 crore houses constructed in the villages are in the name of women. Ujjwala has relieved women of smoke-filled life. They are being integrated with self-reliance mission through self-help group movement," said Modi.

He added that there had been 13-fold increase in the last seven years in support to women under National Livelihood Mission as compared to five preceding years to 2014.

The Statesman- 03- October-2021

# PM Modi launches Jal Jeevan Mission App

He also launched the Rashtriya Jal Jeevan Kosh

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, 2 OCTOBER

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday interacted with Gram Panchayats and Pani Samitis / Village Water and Sanitation Committees (VWSC) on Jal Jeevan Mission through video conference.

He also launched the Jal Jeevan Mission App and Rashtriya Jal Jeevan Kosh and said, "Jal Jeevan Mission is not just to make water accessible to the people. This is also a big movement of Decentralization."

Referring to popular conceptions of the problem of water, the Prime Minister talked of movies, stories, poems that tell in detail how the women and children of the village walked miles to fetch water. In the minds of some



people, this picture emerges as soon as the name of the village is taken.

The Prime Minister asked why so few people think about the question? Why do these people have to go to some river or pond every day, after all, why does the water not reach these people?

"I think those who had the responsibility of policy-making for a long time, should have asked themselves this question," the Prime Minister

remarked. The Prime Minister said that perhaps the earlier policy-makers did not realize the importance of water as they came from water abundant areas.

Modi said, coming from a state like Gujarat he has seen drought conditions and knows the importance of every drop of water. That is why being the Chief Minister of Gujarat, providing water to the people and water conservation were his priorities.

The Prime Minister said from independence till 2019, only 3 crore households in the country had access to tap water. Since the launch of Jal Jeevan Mission in 2019, 5 crore households have been connected with water connections.

Today, water is reaching every household in about 1.25 lakh villages in about 80 districts of the country. In the Aspirational districts, the number of tap connections has increased from 31 lakh to 1.16 crore.

He noted that in just two years, more work has been done than was done in the last seven decades. He appealed to every citizen of the country who lives in an abundance of water, to make more efforts to save water and called upon them to change their habits too.

# ममता ने कहा- झारखंड के बांधों से बाढ़ आई

■ पीटीआई, आरामबाग : पश्चिम बंगाल में आई बाढ़ को सीएम ममता बनर्जी ने मानव निर्मित करार दिया। उन्होंने कहा, 'अगर झारखंड में बांधों से गाढ़ की सफाई की गई होती तो बंगाल को ऐसी स्थिति का सामना नहीं करना पड़ता।' ममता ने कहा



कि पिछले दो दिनों में बंगाल सरकार को सूचित किए बगैर पांच लाख क्यूसेक से अधिक पानी छोड़ने से राज्य में बाढ़ आई। बंगाल के कई जिले बाढ़ की स्थिति झेल रहे हैं। ममता के बायन पर झारखंड सरकार ने कहा कि केंद्रीय जल आयोग के दिशा-निर्देश पर डैम से पानी छोड़ा गया। पानी छोड़ने के पहले बंगाल सरकार के संबंधित विभागों को अलर्ट कर दिया था। चेतावनी पहले ही जारी कर दी गई थी। वहीं, ममता ने कहा कि वह झारखंड से विचार-विमर्श करके एक योजना तैयार करने का अनुरोध करेंगी। बाढ़ आने से रोकने के लिए केंद्र से एक मास्टर प्लान तैयार करने का अनुरोध करेंगे। ममता ने कहा कि बाढ़ से राज्य के चार लाख से अधिक लोग प्रभावित हैं।



Dainik Jagran- 03- October-2021

# लंबे समय तक सत्ता में रहने वालों को नहीं दिखी पानी की किल्लत : मोदी

## प्रधानमंत्री ने राष्ट्रीय जल जीवन कोष और जल जीवन एप का किया शुभारंभ

जागरण ब्यूरो, नई दिल्ली : जल जीवन मिशन की उपलब्धियों पर ग्राम सभा और पानी समितियों से शनिवार को बातचीत करते हुए प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी ने कांग्रेस पर हमला बोला। उन्होंने कहा लंबे समय तक सत्ता में रहने वाले लोगों को पानी की किल्लत नहीं दिखी क्योंकि उनके घर में और उनके स्वीमिंग पूल में पानी, यानी सब जगह पानी था। ऐसे लोगों ने कभी गरीबी देखी ही नहीं थी।

तत्कालीन नीति नियामकों की सोच पर तंज करते हुए पीएम ने कहा कि गरीबी उनके लिए आकर्षण रही। वे लोग गांव के अभावों को ही पसंद करते रहे। मोदी ने कहा कि जल जीवन मिशन शुरू होने के मात्र दो साल के भीतर पांच करोड़ घरों को पानी कनेक्शन से जोड़ दिया गया। 80 जिलों के करीब 1.25 लाख गांवों के हर घर में नल से जल पहुंच रहा है। प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा कि पिछले सात दशक में जो काम हुआ, उससे ज्यादा सिर्फ दो साल में कर दिया गया है।

प्रधानमंत्री मोदी ने इस मौके पर जल जीवन मिशन एप और राष्ट्रीय जल जीवन कोष का शुभारंभ किया। जल जीवन मिशन विकेंद्रीकरण के लिए भी एक बड़ा अभियान है। यह गांव संचालित और महिला संचालित अभियान है। इसका मुख्य आधार जन आंदोलन और जन भागीदारी है।

● कुपोषण की लड़ाई में पानी की अहम भूमिका होने की बात कही



नई दिल्ली में शनिवार को प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी ने वीडियो कांफ्रेंसिंग के माध्यम से जल जीवन मिशन की उपलब्धियों पर ग्राम सभा और पानी समितियों से संवाद के अवसर पर जल जीवन मिशन एप और राष्ट्रीय जल जीवन कोष का शुभारंभ किया ● पेट

उन्होंने कहा, ग्राम स्वराज का असल लाभ तब मिलेगा, जब गांव से जुड़ी प्लानिंग व मैनेजमेंट तक में गांव के लोगों की भागीदारी रहेगी। आजादी के 75 साल बीत चुके हैं। अब युद्ध स्तर पर काम करना होगा। टैंकरों-ट्रेनों से पानी पहुंचाने की नौबत अब नहीं आने दी जाएगी। कुपोषण की लड़ाई में पानी की बड़ी भूमिका है। हर घर जल पहुंचेगा तो बच्चों का स्वास्थ्य भी सुधरेगा। पानी

● कहा-कम सिंचाई वाली फसलों की खेती को बढ़ावा देना चाहिए



की महत्ता का जिक्र करते हुए मोदी ने कहा, पानी का उपयोग हमें प्रसाद की तरह करना चाहिए। जितने 70 सालों में नल से जल नहीं मिल पाया, छोटे से नल ने उनकी दुनिया बदल दी है। लेकिन कुछ लोग पानी का मूल्य नहीं समझते हैं। लोगों को पानी बचाने का ज्यादा प्रयास करना चाहिए।

जल संरक्षण करने वालों से सीख लेने के साथ पानी के स्रोतों की सुरक्षा पर जोर देते हुए मोदी ने कहा कि

जल शक्ति मंत्रालय ने अनुदानों के उपयोग के दिशानिर्देश जारी किए नई दिल्ली, प्रेट्ट : जल शक्ति मंत्रालय ने ग्रामीण क्षेत्र के स्थानीय निकायों के लिए 15वें वित्त आयोग द्वारा 2021-26 की अवधि के लिए अनुशंसित अनुदानों को जारी करने और उपयोग करने दिशानिर्देश जारी किए हैं। मंत्रालय ने कहा, ग्रामीण स्थानीय निकायों और पंचायती राज संस्थानों को पानी व स्वच्छता के लिए अनुदान का उपयोग पेयजल की आपूर्ति, वर्षा जल संचयन और जल पुनर्वर्धन, स्वच्छता के साथ खुले में शौच मुक्ति की स्थिति की देखरेख पर खर्च किया जाना है। पीएम ने शनिवार को पानी-स्वच्छता के लिए आरएलबी/पीआरआइ को 15वें वित्त आयोग से संबद्ध अनुदान के उपयोग को ई-बुक मेनुअल का विमोचन किया।

बारिश का पानी बचाने और कम सिंचाई वाली फसलों की खेती को बढ़ावा देना चाहिए।

पीएम ने पूर्ववर्ती सरकार को कोसते हुए कहा, दिमागी बुखार से पीड़ित देश के 61 जिलों में पानी के नलों की संख्या मात्र आठ लाख थी, जो आज बढ़कर 1.11 करोड़ हो चुकी है। विकास की दौड़ में पिछड़ गए जिलों में नलों की संख्या 31 लाख से बढ़कर 1.16 करोड़ हो गई है।