

## WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION DEPARTMENT

### Performance Audit on Jal Jeevan Mission

#### AUDIT SNAPSHOT

| Why did we do this audit?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | What did we find?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Programme objectives have been achieved successfully,</li><li>➤ Efficient institutional framework was in place for planning, implementation and post operational management of the scheme,</li><li>➤ Financial resources have been employed in an economic and efficient manner; and</li><li>➤ Assets created through the programme are sustainable for the next two to three decades and do not compromise water security for future generations.</li></ul> | <p>As against 1.46 crore rural households in the State aimed to provide Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC), 1.25 crore households were provided FHTC till March 2024. The progress of water supply schemes (WSS) in Maharashtra during the year 2019-24 was only 24.64 <i>per cent</i> as a total of 51,560 WSS were initiated in the State out of which 12,703 WSS were completed and 75.35 <i>per cent</i> (38,857) WSS were ongoing. The initial estimated (September 2020) expenditure for implementation of JJM in the State was ₹ 13,668.50 crore. However, ₹ 26,410.51 crore had been incurred by March 2024 without achieving the target of providing FHTC to every household.</p> <p>Implementation of JJM was affected due to weak planning as Baseline survey was not conducted. Village Action Plan was deficient as it was prepared without incorporating essential parameters. District Action Plan was not prepared for the whole scheme period and Schemes were planned without assured water sources.</p> <p>The cost of implementation increased due to inadequate initial planning, deficient surveys, delays in execution, and frequent revisions of schemes. At State level 27 <i>per cent</i> (13,835 out of 51,560) WSS and at selected districts level 38 <i>per cent</i> of WSS (2,976 WSS of 7,730) were under the process of cost revision due to increase in the scope of</p> |

| Why did we do this audit?                                                                                                                                                               | What did we find?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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|                                                                                                                                                                                         | <p>work for additional habitants, change of water source/ land, execution of additional works, award of work above tender rate resulting in increase in cost by ₹ 9,608.87 crore.</p> <p>Timely release and utilization of Central and State funds were adversely affected by delays in submission of Utilization Certificates and audited accounts.</p> <p>At the State level, 26.50 <i>per cent</i> (10,677 out of 40,297) villages were certified Har Ghar Jal whereas at the selected district level 27.30 <i>per cent</i> (2,185 out of 8,005) villages were certified as HGJ.</p> <p>The infrastructure for water quality testing was found wanting as the State laboratory was not established and accreditation of sub-division laboratories was yet to be done.</p> <p>Operation &amp; Maintenance policy was not prepared.</p> <p>In the State, against the total due community contribution of ₹ 2,043.79 crore, an amount of ₹ 21.72 crore (one <i>per cent</i>) was collected (October 2024).</p> <p>JJM-IMIS data was not reliable and accurate as instances of discrepancies in IMIS in the selected districts were noticed.</p> <p>Meetings of District Water and Sanitation Mission was not conducted regularly.</p> |
| <p>Key figures</p> <p><b>By August 2019</b></p> <p>Total households: 138.54 lakh</p> <p>FHTC Coverage - 48.44 lakh</p> <p><b>By March 2024</b></p> <p>Total households: 146.81 lakh</p> | <p><b><i>What do we recommend?</i></b></p> <p><b><i>Government may:</i></b></p> <p>➤ <b><i>Provide a clear implementation roadmap and balanced execution of works through effective and efficient Village Action Plans, District Action Plans and State Action Plan as stipulated in JJM guidelines.</i></b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

| Why did we do this audit?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | What did we find?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
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| <p>FHTC Coverage: 125.01 lakh</p> <p>Water Supply Schemes: (2019-24)</p> <p>Total WSS undertaken: 51,560</p> <p>WSS completed: 12,703</p> <p>Blocks with Har Ghar Jal: 02 of 351 (0.56 per cent)</p> <p>Villages with Har Ghar Jal certificate: 10,677 of 40,297 (26.50 per cent)</p> <p>Total Expenditure (2019-24): ₹ 26,410.51 crore</p> <p>Inadmissible Expenditure: ₹ 7.62 crore</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <i>Ensure that WSS are sanctioned only after ensuring assured water sources.</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Ensure conversion of all households having tap connections from private/own source to regular FHTC under JJM.</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Strengthen fund flow planning to enable timely release and optimal utilization of Central and State shares.</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Ensure the timelines of remittance of interest earned on unspent balances to the consolidated fund and submission of UCs and audited accounts.</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Devise mechanism to prevent inadmissible expenditure through improved internal controls and regular monitoring.</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Speed up the process to provide FHTC to every household along with completion of pending WSS to make FHTC fully functional and ensure availability of land and mandatory clearances before sanctioning and awarding WSS.</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Strengthen the monitoring systems and reconcile FHTC data to ensure accuracy and transparency and adhere strictly to JJM guidelines, particularly in certification of HGJ villages, metering of household connections and asset protection.</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Strengthen the process for water quality testing and reporting along with strengthening the water testing facility by early establishment of the State laboratory.</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Consider NABL recognition and accreditation of all sub-division laboratories in the State to make the process of testing of water samples more reliable.</i></li> </ul> |

| Why did we do this audit? | What did we find?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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|                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <i>Ensure formulation and implementation of O&amp;M policy at the earliest and formulate effective mechanism to collect the community contribution for efficient operation and maintenance of WSS.</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Devise mechanism for development of skilled human resources for effective maintenance.</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Ensure water security for ultimate stage and artificial recharge system for all the groundwater-based schemes.</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Ensure the integrity of information on JJM-IMIS.</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Ensure effective monitoring of WSS, Government may consider taking regular meetings of District Water and Sanitation Mission, tripartite agreement involving GP, mechanism like IT tools such as sensors, the Internet of Things (IoT), customized dashboards, SCADA systems, and District Metering Areas (DMA) may be adopted.</i></li> </ul> |