

Jal Jeevan Mission Faces Funding Cuts

Source: IE

The Jal Shakti Ministry sought an additional Rs 2.79 lakh crore to complete the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM).

- However, the **Expenditure Finance Committee(EFC)** (under the Ministry of Finance) approved only Rs 1.51 lakh crore, potentially shifting over Rs 1.25 lakh crore burden to states.
- Jal Jeevan Mission: Launched in 2019, it aims to provide tap water to all 16 crore rural households by December 2024, currently, 75% coverage achieved, with nearly 4 crore households still pending.
 - The mission is now proposed to be extended till **December 2028** to achieve universal coverage.
 - The fund sharing pattern between Centre and State is 90:10 for Himalayan (Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh) and North-Eastern States, 100:0 for UTs and 50:50 for the rest of the States.
- **Funding Issues:** The Jal Shakti Ministry demanded Rs 2.79 lakh crore as the Central share for 2024–2028 to complete the remaining tap water installations, citing inflated costs due to rising input prices.
 - However, the EFC recommended only Rs 1.51 lakh crore, citing concerns over cost escalation, potential overestimation by states, and fiscal prudence.
 - As a result, the revised total outlay for the mission was reduced from Rs 9.10 lakh crore to Rs 8.68 lakh crore (2019-2028).

OUTLAY PROPOSED BY JAL SHAKTI

Total cost: ₹9.10 lakh crore

Central share: ₹4.88 lakh crore

■ Central Budget approved in 2019: ₹2.08 lakh crore

■Additional Central share sought now: ₹2.79 lakh crore

WHAT EFC RECOMMENDS:

Total cost: ₹8.68 lakh crore

Central share: ₹3.59 lakh crore

■ Central Budget approved in 2019: ₹2.08 lakh crore

■ Additional Central share cleared: ₹1.51 lakh crore

• Implications: States may have to cover the funding shortfall, especially in Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Madhya Pradesh.



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