W-11011/20/2021-JJM-I-DDWS

Government of India Ministry of Jal Shakti Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation National Jal Jeevan Mission

4thFloor, Antyodaya Bhavan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi – 110 003

Dated: August 14th, 2021

To,
Addl. Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary/ Secretary
In-charge Rural Water Supply/ Public Health Engineering Department
All States/ UTs

Subject: Extension of time period for completion of retrofitting/ augmentation of existing PWS schemes and coverage of all rural households in Aspirational & JE-AES affected districts and approval of MVSs under Jal Jeevan Mission - reg

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the provisions made in the Operational Guidelines for expeditious implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission to make provision of tap water supply to every rural household of the country by 2024. National Jal Jeevan Mission is regularly impressing upon the States/ UTs to adopt following strategy/ planning approach as mandated in the Operational Guidelines for the implementation of JJM to ensure assured water supply to every rural home:

- i.) In villages with existing piped water supply system, all remaining households to be provided with water supply by retrofitting/ augmenting, if needed, so that 'no one is left out';
- ii.) In villages where ground/ surface water of good quality in sufficient quantity is available, single village systems (SVS) to be planned and executed, which is the most preferred option;
- iii.) Villages with adequate groundwater but having quality issues, water to be treated before supply to every household;
- iv.) In water-stressed areas, bulk water transfer, treatment plants and distribution systems to be planned and executed;
- v.) In isolated tribal hamlets/ hilly/ forested areas, stand-alone solar-based and/ or gravity-based water supply systems to be given priority.
- 2. As per the Operational Guidelines of JJM, all types of retrofitting/ augmentation works in the villages having piped water supply; 27,544 identified Arsenic/ Fluoride affected habitations under NWQSM and; all the 61 (then 60) JE-AES affected districts, should have been covered i.e. all the households in such villages/ habitations should have been provided with tap water connections by 31st March, 2021. Further, approval (including the approval by SLSSC and Administrative approval) for all the MVSs should have been taken before 31st March, 2021. However, the deadline of 31st

March, 2021 for completing all retrofitting/ augmentation works, NWQSM and covering of JE-AES affected districts and approval of MVSs have not been met with by States/ UTs.

- 3. This department had earlier received requests from the states to extend the time lines for completing on-going/ approved projects under NWQSM. Considering the importance of making provision of safe drinking water in water quality-affected habitations, this department after due deliberations, has extended the timeline for implementation of NWQSM by one year i.e. up to 31.03.2022, with a condition that if any State requires additional fund, it can use JJM fund and unspent fund available on completion of projects will be adjusted against release under JJM.
- 4. This Department has now received several requests from States for extension of deadline for retrofitting/ augmentation, coverage of priority areas, etc. as per details mentioned in para 2 above. The matter has been examined and in view of the difficulties faced by States/ UTs due to Covid pandemic and resultant disruptions that affected implementation of the works in many parts of the country, the following relaxations have been made as a special case with strict compliance to this effect for:
 - i.) all retrofitting/ augmentation of water supply scheme to provide FHTCs and to make them JJM compliant to be completed latest by 31st March, 2022;
 - ii.) coverage of priority areas i.e. Aspirational & JE-AES affected districts to be given top-most priority and to be completed by 31st March, 2022; and
 - iii.) for new multi village schemes, the deadline for awarding contract beyond 31st March, 2021 is extended up to 31st December, 2021.
- 5. In view of this, States/ UTs to adhere to the above modified timeline to accomplish the goal in a time-bound manner.

Yours faithfully

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Director

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Copy f.w.c.to: Mission Director/ Engineer-in-Chief/ Chief Engineer, In-charge Rural Water Supply/ Public Health Engineering Department, all States/ UTs