






Ministry of Jal Shakti Budget Insights

VOL 3 | ISSUE 15

Authors: Sharad Pandey and
Avani Kapur

8 February 2026

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

-  For the Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoJS), FY 26-27 Budget Estimates (BEs) more than doubled to ₹94,808 crore compared to last year's REs. However, despite this increase, allocations remain 5 per cent lower than the FY 25-26 BEs.
-  Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), saw only a 1 per cent increase in FY 26-27 BEs compared to last year's BEs. For FY 25-26 REs fell to just 25 per cent of BEs, and utilisation declined from 81 per cent in FY 22-23 to an all-time low of 32 per cent in FY 24-25.
-  For the Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin (SBM-G), FY 26-27 BEs increased by 20 per cent over last year's REs but remained unchanged compared to BEs. Utilisation has been low, declining from 91 per cent in FY 23-24 to 50 per cent in FY 24-25.
-  In FY 26-27 BEs, for the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojna (PMKSY) stood at ₹7,137 crore- 3 per cent higher than last year's REs but 14 per cent lower than BEs. Utilisation improved from 51 per cent in FY 22-23 to 79 per cent in FY 24-25.
-  For Atal Bhujal Yojana, in FY 26-27 BEs reduced to ₹0.13 crore from ₹ 613 crore in FY 25-26 RE.

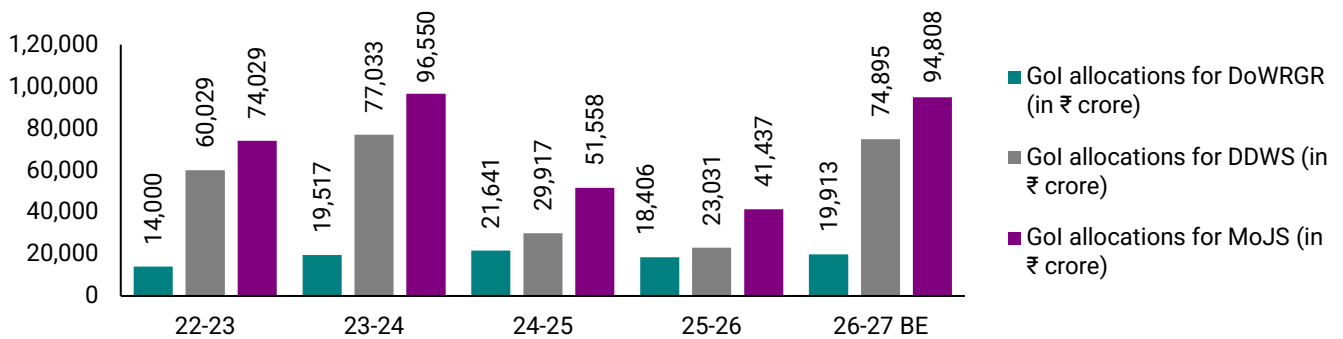
The Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoJS) is responsible for providing quality drinking water and sanitation facilities to all citizens and for the development of India's water resources. MoJS was formed in 2019 incorporating two erstwhile Ministries which now exist as different departments within the Ministry. These are:

- **The Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (DoWRGR)** which is responsible for the development, conservation, and management of water as a national resource. It provides policy guidelines for water planning, regulation, and coordination across sectors and states. The Department also addresses inter-State and transboundary water issues, water laws, and international cooperation. In addition, it oversees water quality assessment, river conservation, and Ganga rejuvenation.¹
- **The Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS)** is the nodal department responsible for policy formulation, planning, financing, and coordination of rural drinking water and sanitation programmes. It oversees the implementation of the SBM-G and JJM. The Department supports States in ensuring universal access to safe, sustainable drinking water and improved sanitation facilities in rural areas.²

Trends in Finances of Ministry of Jal Shakti

- For FY 26-27 Budget Estimates (BEs), allocations for the MoJS stood at ₹94,808 crore, which is ₹53,371 crore or more than double the FY 25-26 Revised Estimates (REs), but 5 per cent lower than the FY 26-27 BEs. This sharp increase over REs is largely because FY 25-26 REs were 58 per cent lower than the corresponding BEs.
- For the Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (DoWRGR), in FY 26-27 BEs stood at ₹19,913 crore, representing an 8 per cent increase over FY 25-26 REs, but a 21 per cent decline compared to FY 25-26 BEs. Additionally, FY 25-26 REs were 27 per cent lower than the BEs.
- In FY 26-27 BEs, DDWS stood at ₹74,895 crore, more than tripled the FY 25-26 REs and 1 per cent higher than the FY 25-26 BEs. However, here too FY 25-26 REs were 69 per cent lower than the BEs.
- Among the two departments, DDWS accounts for around 79 per cent of the total MoJS allocation in FY 26-27 BEs.

Figure 1: GoI Allocations for MoJS (in ₹ crore)



Source: Union budget documents, various years. [Url](#). Last accessed on 6 February 2026.

Note: Allocation figures for FY 22-23 to FY 25-26 are REs, and for FY 26-27 are BEs.

- DoWRGR shows variations in release of funds or spending. While utilisation improved sharply from 63 per cent in FY 22-23 to 98 per cent in FY 24-25, REs fell to 73 per cent of BEs in FY 25-26.
- In-year utilisation has been concerning with only 60 per cent of the FY 24-25 budget spent by the end of the third quarter. The standing committee flagged risks of expenditure bunching in the final quarter and potential non-compliance with Ministry of Finance guidelines, calling for closer monitoring and a status update within three months.³
- DDWS shows similar spending trends from FY 24-25 onwards. After near-full utilisation in FY 22-23 (89 per cent) and FY 23-24 (99 per cent), expenditure declined to 33 per cent in FY 24-25 and for FY 25-26, REs declined to 31 per cent of BEs.
- The Committee highlighted repeated sharp cuts at the RE stage—despite higher BEs in successive years which point to weak budget planning by DDWS, underscoring the need for more realistic and prudent pre-budget projections.⁴

Table 1: Trends in Allocations and Expenditures for DoWRGR and DDWS (in ₹ crore)

		22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26
DoWRGR	BE	18,968	20,055	21,323	25,277
	Actuals	11,962	18,539	20,867	18,406
	% of funds spent	63	92	98	73
DDWS	BE	67,221	77,223	77,391	74,226
	Actuals	59,655	76,570	25,853	23,031
	% of funds spent	89	99	33	31

Source: Union budget documents, various years. [Url](#). Last accessed on 6 February 2026.

Note: For FY 25-26, figures are BEs and REs.

KEY SCHEMES OF THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

- This section summarises allocations and expenditure across major schemes of the MoJS, covering Centrally Sponsored Schemes and Central Sector Schemes. Detailed descriptions of each scheme are provided in **Annexure 1**.
- Under the MoJS, the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) is the largest programme, accounting for 71 per cent of the total allocation. This is followed by Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin (SBM-G), and the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY), each accounting for 8 per cent of the allocation. Polavaram Irrigation Project accounts for 4 per cent, Namami Gange Mission-II accounts for 3 per cent, and Interlinking of Rivers 2 per cent, respectively. Together, these programmes constitute 95 per cent bulk of the Ministry's allocation for FY 26-27 BEs.
- All schemes recorded higher allocations in the FY 26-27 BEs compared to the REs of the previous year, except for the Atal Bhujal Yojana, which saw a 100 per cent decline, with allocations falling to ₹0.13 crore. Allocations for Ground Water Management and Regulation remained unchanged.
- However, when compared to FY 25-26 BEs, allocations for 8 out of 12 schemes declined in FY 26-27, including major programmes such as the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (14 per cent), Polavaram Irrigation Project (44 per cent), Namami Gange Mission-II (9 per cent), and Interlinking of Rivers (21 per cent). In contrast, the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) saw a marginal 1 per cent increase, while allocations for SBM-G remained unchanged.
- Overall, the Government of India expenditure in FY 25-26 REs was 2 per cent lower than BEs, with significant variation between BEs and REs across MoJS schemes. JJM allocation were particularly low, with REs at only 25 per cent of BEs. Similarly, REs was 51 per cent of BEs for the Polavaram Irrigation Project, 25 per cent lower for Interlinking of Rivers, 21 per cent lower for Namami Gange Mission-II, and 17 per cent lower for SBM-G.
- The department attributed RE-stage reductions mainly to states, fund-absorption capacity, and matching-share constraints, noting that most approved central outlay under the JJM has been utilised and that allocations have risen again following the Mission's extension to 2028 with an enhanced total outlay. Fund utilisation may start after securing approval of Cabinet.⁵
- Rajya Sabha response indicates there has been no fresh allocations made to any state/UTs under JJM in FY 25-26. States were advised to continue ongoing works using their own resources as is a water state subject.⁶
- Several major schemes witnessed persistent low releases or underspending by GoI between FY 22-23 and FY 24-25. Under the JJM, utilisation increased from 81 per cent of BE in FY 22-23 to 100 per cent in FY 23-24, before falling sharply to an all-time low of 32 per cent in FY 24-25.
- SBM-G also saw weakening utilisation at 68 per cent in FY 22-23 increasing to 91 per cent in FY 23-24 but then declining to 50 per cent in FY 24-25.
- Actual expenditure was only about 33 per cent of REs by January 2025, for FY 24-25 reflecting serious implementation bottlenecks. The Committee attributed this largely to delays in states adopting the SNA-SPARSH system, which stalled fund releases, and urged faster state onboarding or temporary exemptions from the MoF to avoid further under-utilisation.⁷
- A similar pattern is observed in the Namami Gange Mission-II, where utilisation fell from 73 per cent in FY 22-23 to 48 per cent in FY 23-24, before improving to 89 per cent in FY 24-25.
- A detailed analysis of allocations, utilisation, and outcomes under the Namami Gange Mission-II is available [here](#).

- For Atal Bhujal Yojana utilisation exceeded in FY 22-23 and FY 23-24; however, in FY 24-25, utilisation fell sharply, with only 33 per cent of the budget spent.
- Under PMKSY, utilisation stood at 51 per cent in FY 22-23, increasing to 79 per cent in FY 24-25. Interlinking of Rivers also saw an improvement, with utilisation rising from 45 per cent in FY 22-23 to 57 per cent in FY 24-25, though it remained at relatively low levels.
- Command Area Development and Water Management remains a key irrigation scheme under PMKSY but has faced sharp allocation cuts and delays. Allocations declined from ₹1,400 crore BEs to ₹100 crore REs in FY 24-25, and further declined in FY 25-26 due to delays in approving the Modified CAD scheme. The Committee flagged persistent underutilisation and inadequate funding, urging faster approvals and fuller utilisation to ensure effective implementation.⁸
- In contrast, the National River Conservation Plan- Other Basins recorded full or above-full utilisation (100 per cent or more) from FY 22-23 to FY 24-25.

Table 2: Trends in Allocations and Expenditures across key schemes (in ₹ crore)

		22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	26-27
Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)	BE	67,221	70,000	70,163	67,000	67,670
	Actuals	54,700	69,992	22,615	17,000	
	% of funds spent	81	100	32	25	
SBM-G	BE	7,192	7,192	7,192	7,192	7,192
	Actuals	4,925	6,546	3,613	6,000	
	% of funds spent	68	91	50	83	
Namami Gange Mission-II	BE	2,800	4,000	3,346	3,400	3,100
	Actuals	2,048	1,922	2,976	2,687	
	% of funds spent	73	48	89	79	
River Basin Management	BE	97	110	155	243	205
	Actuals	78	64	131	168	
	% of funds spent	81	58	85	69	
Ground Water Management and Regulation	BE	375	330	325	509	425
	Actuals	177	202	232	425	
	% of funds spent	47	61	71	83	
National Hydrology Project	BE	800	500	661	13	400
	Actuals	481	321	373	13	
	% of funds spent	60	64	56	100	
Atal Bhujal Yojna	BE	700	1,000	1,778	1,780	0.13
	Actuals	1,155	1,739	594	613	
	% of funds spent	165	174	33	34	
Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojna	BE	9,652	7,697	8,250	8,260	7,137
	Actuals	4,962	6,088	6,501	6,922	
	% of funds spent	51	79	79	84	
Flood Management and Border Areas Programme(FMBAP)	BE	450	450	450	450	797
	Actuals	433	198	388	448	
	% of funds spent	96	44	86	100	

		22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	26-27
National River Conservation Plan -Other Basins	BE	251	300	592	558	550
	Actuals	443	346	589	516	
	% of funds spent	177	115	100	92	
Interlinking of Rivers	BE	1,400	3,500	3,500	2,400	1,906
	Actuals	624	1,391	2,000	1,808	
	% of funds spent	45	40	57	75	
Polavaram Irrigation Project	BE				5,936	3,320
	Actuals			5,512	3,017	
	% of funds spent				51	

Source: Union budget documents, various years. [Url](#). Last accessed on 6 February 2026.

Note: For FY 25-26, figures are BEs and REs and FY 26-27 are BEs.

MAIN DEVELOPMENTS

- Under JJM tap water coverage expanded from 16.7 per cent of rural households in 2019, to over 81.6 per cent by 3 February 2026, with more than 12.5 crore new tap connections provided nationwide.⁹
- Water quality lab accreditation under JJM remains uneven across states. As on 29 May 2025, of 2,183 drinking water testing laboratories, 1,620 (74 per cent) are NABL-accredited, but Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, and Lakshadweep have none, while Bihar, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Odisha, and Telangana continue to have very limited accredited capacity, despite states being allowed to use up to 2 per cent of JJM funds for water quality monitoring.¹⁰
- There is limited fiscal space for SBM-G 2.0 execution. Of the ₹7,192 crore allocation in FY 25-26, about ₹1,031 crore annually goes towards interest payments until 2030, constraining funds available for implementation. The Committee called for higher allocations to ensure timely execution, while Gol stated that allocations are based on state demand and utilisation capacity.¹¹
- The Atal Bhujal Yojana has shown limited on-ground impact. Despite operating since 2020 across over 8,213 water-stressed Gram Panchayats, only about 1,333 (16 per cent) have seen improvement in groundwater levels in 2024.¹²
- As of 7 February 2026, 85 per cent of total villages have been declared as ODF Plus Model villages. Of these, 88 per cent of villages have been officially verified as ODF Plus Model villages.¹³
- As of December 2025, a total sewage treatment capacity of 3,977 MLD has been created under the Namami Gange Mission. Of this, 530 MLD (about 13 per cent) was commissioned between January and December 2025, through 25 newly operational sewage treatment plants.¹⁴

ANNEXURE- 1

Scheme Name	Description
Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)	Launched in 2019, the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) aims to provide Functional Household Tap Connections (Har Ghar Jal) to all rural households by FY 28-29. It supports states/UTs to ensure regular and safe drinking water, with focus on source sustainability, including rainwater harvesting, groundwater recharge, greywater management, and water conservation.
Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen (SBM-G)	Launched in 2014, with a mission to eliminate open defecation in rural areas, with all villages declaring ODF by 2019. The Mission is now in Phase II, focusing on ODF sustainability and solid and liquid waste management.
Namami Gange Mission-II	Launched in June 2014, the programme seeks to rejuvenate the river Ganga and its tributaries. The programme, implemented by the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) and supports pollution abatement, river conservation, and community participation, and has been extended till March 2026.
River Basin Management	Supports planning and management of river systems through surveys, investigations, master plans, flood and erosion control works, preparation of DPRs and feasibility studies, and the functioning of river basin authorities
Ground Water Management and Regulation	Provides for the execution of projects aimed at improving groundwater governance, including standalone initiatives such as the National Aquifer Mapping and Management Programme (NAQUIM).
National Hydrology Project	Purpose is to strengthen water resource assessment and river basin planning through hydrological data systems, modelling, flood forecasting, and capacity building, with World Bank assistance.
Atal Bhujal Yojna	Supports projects to improve and incentivise sustainable groundwater management.
Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojna	Launched in 15-16, the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) aims to expand assured irrigation coverage, improve on-farm water-use efficiency, and promote sustainable water conservation practices.
Flood Management and Border Areas Programme (FMBAP)	Supports flood control and mitigation, hydrological studies, and river management on border rivers, including anti-erosion works and maintenance of flood protection infrastructure such as the Kosi and Gandak projects.
National River Conservation Plan - Other Basins	Aims to improve water quality in polluted river stretches outside the Ganga basin by reducing pollution loads through targeted pollution abatement measures.
Interlinking of Rivers	Provides funding for activities related to the Ken-Betwa River (water transfer project) interlinking project.
Polavaram Irrigation Project	Provides for the construction of a dam and canal system to create new irrigation potential, stabilise existing ayacut, and supply drinking water to districts in Andhra Pradesh.

REFERENCES

¹Department of Water Resources, River Development, and Ganga Rejuvenation. [Url](#).

²Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation. [Url](#).

³Lok Sabha, Parliament of India, (2025). 9th Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/ Observations contained on 4th Demands for Grants 2025-26 Ministry of Jal Shakti -Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation. [Url](#)

⁴Lok Sabha, Parliament of India, (2025). 8th Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/ Observations contained on 3rd Demands for Grants 2025-26 Ministry of Jal Shakti - Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation. [Url](#).

⁵*Ibid*

⁶Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 257 (2 February 2026). [Url](#).

⁷Lok Sabha, Parliament of India, (2025). 8th Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/ Observations contained on 3rd Demands for Grants 2025-26 Ministry of Jal Shakti - Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation. [Url](#).

⁸Lok Sabha, Parliament of India, (2025). 9th Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/ Observations contained on 4th Demands for Grants 2025-26 Ministry of Jal Shakti -Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation. [Url](#)

⁹Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 986 (3 February 2026). [Url](#).

¹⁰Lok Sabha, Parliament of India, (2025). 8th Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/ Observations contained on 3rd Demands for Grants 2025-26 Ministry of Jal Shakti - Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation. [Url](#).

¹¹*Ibid*

¹²Lok Sabha, Parliament of India, (2025). 9th Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/ Observations contained on 4th Demands for Grants 2025-26 Ministry of Jal Shakti -Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation. [Url](#)

¹³Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) 2.0. Dashboard. [Url](#).

¹⁴Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 189 (29 January 2026). [Url](#).

About ResGov

The Foundation for Responsive Governance (ResGov) is a Section 8 not-for-profit working to strengthen the capabilities of government and communities to ensure public initiatives reach the most vulnerable.

About the Authors

Sharad Pandey (sharad@resgov.org) is a Senior Research Associate at ResGov.
Avani Kapur (avani@resgov.org) is the Founder Director at ResGov.

Suggested Citation: Suggested citation: Pandey, S., and Kapur, A. (2026), Ministry of Jal Shakti, Budget Insights, Volume 3, Issue 15, Foundation for Responsive Governance, New Delhi. 8 February 2026.

Acknowledgements

This is a team effort and we are grateful to the entire team at ResGov.

Design Credit: Yashoda Banduni

Banner Credit: Accountability Initiative, Centre for Policy Research.



We are working to strengthen the capabilities of government and communities to ensure public initiatives reach the most vulnerable.

Support our vision

Foundation for Responsive Governance
(ResGov)

S-351 Panchsheel Park
New Delhi 110017



www.resgov.org



hello@resgov.org



[@Res_Gov](#)



www.linkedin.com/company/resgov