

# Jal Shakti Ministry conceives 'new project' to fix water deficit in Jal Jeevan Mission

**Jacob Koshy**

NEW DELHI

Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil said at a public event on Monday that the government was conceiving a "new project" to ensure that rural households which were provided taps under the ambitious Jal Jeevan Mission but had not yet been able to get water, would soon be provided potable water.

"In some places, we have not been able to fully accomplish the Prime Minister's target," Mr. Patil said at a workshop organised for officers in the Ministry. "Some people say in jest that we have taps but no water. We are in the process of setting up a new project, where in a time-bound manner, we shall ensure that households



C.R. Patil

with taps and no water, and those without taps are all covered," he added.

The ₹3.6-lakh-crore Jal Jeevan Mission was implemented after Prime Minister Narendra Modi promised from the ramparts of the Red Fort in 2019 to provide potable tap water to every rural household in India.

As of June 25, the scheme had encompassed

77% of its target household, officials from the Ministry said at an event on Monday.

Overall, 15 crore households out of a targeted 19 crore have been provided with tap water connections. However, as *The Hindu* has earlier pointed out, there is a difference between a household getting a tap connection and the daily quota of 55 litres per person day of water being provided.

To measure households that have been provided water connections, the water supply departments of the States or Union Territories aggregate the numbers provided by districts of the households, anganwadi or schools in their respective administrative units who have been provided tap water connections.