

HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE FOR RAJASTHAN
BENCH AT JAIPUR

D.B. Civil Writ Petition No. 19620/2023
CNR: RJHC020998022023 | URN: CW / 38263U / 2023

Public Against Corruption
-----Petitioner

Versus

The Union Of India
-----Respondent

Connected With

D.B. Civil Writ Petition No. 9099/2026
CNR: RJHC020484362026 | URN: CW / 20151U / 2026

Suo Moto
-----Petitioner

Versus

The Union Of India
-----Respondent

For Petitioner(s)	:	Mr. Poonam Chand Bhandari Mr. Pratibha Basera Mr. Shivang Khandelwal
For Respondent(s)	:	Mr. Bharat Vyas, ASG with Mr. Rakesh Choudhary Mr. Guru Charan Singh Gill, AAG Ms. Shikha Sharma, AAAG Mr. Akshay Bhardwaj Mr. Giriraj P. Sharma Mr. Saurabh Vaishnav Mr. Kuldeep Singh Rathore for Ms. Mahi Yadav, AAG

HON'BLE THE ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE MR. SANJEEV PRAKASH SHARMA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE CHANDRA SHEKHAR SHARMA

Order

13/08/2026

This Public Interest Litigation preferred by the Society Public against Corruption was initially brought to highlight the corruption which had emerged in the department, where the contractors who were assigned the work of providing tap water to the huge number of houses in Rajasthan had engaged in corruption and the

said information as received in the present petition resulted in issuing notices and State taking immediate action of lodging FIR and registering cases against the concerned officials. Several officers have been arrested and a huge amount of around 130 crores was found to have been disbursed without actual work being performed. While the law is taking its own course and cases have been registered and initiated before the concerned trial courts the petitioner's concern is also with regard to recovering of the amount from the concerned persons. We expect the State Government to take initiative on that account also, as it is public money from the exchequer which has been taken away wrongfully. Obviously, recovery proceedings have to be taken up strictly against those who have indulged in wrongful action as above.

At this stage, learned ASG has pointed out that Directorate of Enforcement has also initiated action and attached properties worth 47.79 crores of the concerned persons who are fifteen in number. The PMLA has also issued the confirmation orders relating to the attachment on 20.11.2025 and the formal auctioning and recovery procedure is being adopted.

At the same time, we had asked on the previous date, i.e.30.06.2026 from the Union of India and the State Government to put forward details of steps taken for implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission in the State of Rajasthan. We are told by the learned ASG that a question in this regard was raised and the Minister of Jal Shakti Department has informed the Parliament on 19.07.2026 that 63.63 Lakh houses have been provided water in the State of Rajasthan. We find that total 107.66 Lakh houses were identified in the year 2019 which required drinking water,

and by now there must be double the number of those houses, as seven years have passed by. We expect the State Government and the Central Government to take cognizance of the aforesaid aspects and act on war footing to provide drinking water to one and all in State of Rajasthan. The Mission should be taken up seriously and on top priority by the State Government and properly implemented. Appropriate funds should also be released by the Central Government for the purpose from time to time and accountability should be also fixed on the Officers, if there is any slack in not completing the work or providing drinking water to people.

In our opinion, the human beings first requirement is to quench his thirst and drinking water is essential. State of Rajasthan being a desert State needs to be given priority over other states for the said purpose.

Let the learned AAG Mr. G. S. Gill inform this Court on the next date as to what would be their road map for completing Jal Jeevan Mission in State of Rajasthan.

Rejoinder as directed earlier shall also be filed before the next date.

List on 09.09.2026.

(CHANDRA SHEKHAR SHARMA),J

(SANJEEV PRAKASH SHARMA),ACTING CJ