

ATAL BHUJAL YOJANA (Atal Jal)

DLI – 1: VERIFICATION PROTOCOL

The protocol for verification of achievements against DLI#1, as elaborated in the Program Guidelines Ver.1.1 as well as the Program Appraisal Document of the World Bank is given in the Table below:

#	DLI	Definition / Description of achievement	Scalability of Disbursements (Yes/No)	Protocol to Evaluate Achievement of the DLI and Data/Result Verification		
				Data Source /Agency	Verification Entity	Procedure
1	Public disclosure of ground water data/ information and reports	A State is verified to have achieved the DLI if the monitoring and disclosure of ground water-related data has improved.	Yes	State and Central (e.g., CGWB) Governments records and data verification	TPGVA/	<p>Only the selected states/block/GP will be considered for this DLI.</p> <p>For a given state/block/GP in a given year, the achievement of the DLI will be measured as the year-on-year improvement using two sub-indicators on (a) groundwater monitoring and disclosure of data (b) disclosure of block-wise groundwater reports</p> <p>Groundwater monitoring and disclosure of data. This sub-indicator is defined as (i) the number of wells with piezometers for water-levels measurement and water quality sampling locations for which water quality and quantity data are available and disclosed; and (ii) the number of wells equipped with functional meters for energy consumption or volumetric groundwater usage.</p> <p>Public availability of groundwater reports. This sub-indicator is defined as the number of block-level groundwater quality and quantity monitoring reports made publicly available online.</p> <p>A state/Block/GP can qualify for this DLI in multiple years.</p>

As per the protocol, the achievement by a State against DLI#1 shall be verified with respect to year-on-year increase in the following:

1. No. of observation wells in the program blocks for which water level data, monitored using a functional measuring device is available.
2. No. of observation wells in the program blocks for which water quality data is available.
3. No. of wells equipped with functional meters for measuring energy consumption or volumetric ground water usage.
4. No. of program blocks for which 'Hydrogeological Reports' with information pertaining to ground water level and water quality monitoring is available.

However, the above protocol does not explicitly mention the protocol for verification of achievements against DLI#1 during the 1st year of scheme implementation i.e.2020-21.

Essentially, DLI#1 envisages to incentivise improvements in the collection, processing and dissemination of ground water related data during and after implementation of the scheme. In order to encourage the participating States to build a database of ground water related information available from various sources during the 1st year of the scheme, historical data disclosed by the States for the period 2015-19 in respect of the above indicators shall be considered toward achievement of DLI#1 in the 1st round of verification during 2020-21.

For the 1st round of verification of DLI#1, information in respect of the indicators mentioned, collected from various available sources (State Agencies, CGWB etc.), compiled and uploaded on the Atal Jal MIS portal shall be considered by the Verification Agency. At the same time, the participating States are expected to disseminate these data after approval of the DoWR, RD&GR on their respective States/Blocks/GPs for its uptake and use by the communities through various programs and agencies. However, from the 2nd year onward, disclosure of the information on any State/ National Portal in addition to the Atal Jal MIS and other means of disclosure shall be mandatory for the States/Blocks/GPs to qualify for disbursement under this DLI.

The criteria for qualification for disbursement of incentives in respect of various indicators under DLI#1 shall be as given below:

- i) In the case of water levels, **availability of at least 8 data points (in respect of pre-and /or post-monsoon water levels) out of the total of 10 possible data points over the period 2015-19 shall be considered as a minimum requirement for acceptance.** From the 2nd year onward, availability of data for both pre-and post-monsoon periods shall be mandatory for new observation well to qualify as eligible. Additionally, from the 2nd year onward, observation wells that had been qualified in prior years would need to maintain continuity of data collection and disclosure.
- ii) In the case of water quality, **availability of Specific Electrical Conductance (EC) / Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), together with at least three (3) major Cations /Anions (Ca, Mg, Na, K, HCO₃, Cl, SO₄, NO₃, F) for at least three (3) years during 2015-19 shall be considered sufficient for an observation well to be considered eligible for disbursement.** However, from the 2nd year onward, availability of data in respect of at least pH, EC/TDS, Ca, Mg, Na, K, CO₃, HCO₃, CL, SO₄, NO₃ and F shall be required for a well to qualify as eligible with respect to this parameter.
- iii) As far as wells fitted with functional energy/water meters are concerned, eligibility requirements include: (i) availability of proof of existence of the meter(s) in the form of geo-tagged photographs and/or functional electricity bills shall be necessary for them to qualify for disbursement; and (ii) the data is also made public (i.e. for six (6) months on Year-1 and for second year and onwards from time of installation).
- iv) Adherence to the template shared with the States shall be the basis for verification of Block-wise hydrogeological reports with water level and water quality monitoring information. Each report submitted by the States shall be evaluated for i) completeness of descriptive information, ii) availability of five (5) maps (Location map, Hydrogeological map, pre- and post- monsoon water level maps & map showing distribution of Specific Electrical Conductance) and iii) availability of three

(3) Tables (Basic data of WL/WQ observation wells, historical ground water level data (2015-19) and historical ground water quality data (2015-19)). The States shall be required to ensure that all the water level and water quality data disclosed in the MIS of Atal Jal and other portals are disclosed in the report of the respective block as well.

- v) From Year 2, disbursements would depend on year-on-year increase in number of wells for which monitoring is available; year-on-year increase in number of wells for which water quality data is available; year-on-year increase in the number of wells with functional meters for measuring energy consumption or volumetric ground water use and year-on-year increase in numbers of Blocks with groundwater (Hydrogeological) reports containing information pertaining to ground water level and water quality monitoring prepared and disclosed on-line.
