



REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-55093

Title: Sustainability and Community Participation in Rural Water Governance: Evidence from the Jal Jeevan Mission in Karnataka

Recommendation:

- Accept as it is
- Accept after minor revision.....**
- Accept after major revision
- Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

| Rating | Excel. | Good | Fair | Poor |
|----------------|--------|------|------|------|
| Originality | | x | | |
| Techn. Quality | | x | | |
| Clarity | x | | | |
| Significance | x | | | |

Reviewer Name: Dr. Hari Prashad Joshi

Detailed Reviewer's Report

This paper presents a robust quantitative analysis of the sustainability of the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) and the role of community participation in Karnataka. The study is well-contextualized, methodologically sound, and addresses a significant policy-relevant issue. The findings that sustainability varies significantly across districts and that educational attainment does not significantly predict community involvement are insightful and contribute meaningfully to the literature on rural water governance. The manuscript is clearly written and well-structured.

I recommend **acceptance with minor revisions**. Key strengths include the appropriate use of ANOVA and correlation analysis, a clear presentation of results, and a discussion that effectively links findings to policy implications. However, the following minor issues should be addressed:

- Clarify the discrepancy between the sample size mentioned in the abstract (921 households) and the methodology section (692 households).
- Ensure all cited references in the literature review (e.g., Asbetsadik et al., 2025) are correctly listed and accessible in the references section.
- Briefly elaborate in the discussion on what the "other factors" (beyond education) influencing participation might be, based on the literature or study context.

These revisions will enhance the paper's clarity and rigor before publication.