



# RIGHT TO WATER



**National Human Rights Commission  
India**

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**NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION  
INDIA**

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**National Human Rights Commission**

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# INTRODUCTION

Water is one of the most essential elements for life. It's found in abundance on earth. About 71 percent of the Earth's surface is covered with water. Still, water is a rare commodity because most of the water on earth is either saline or its not accessible.

96.5% of the total water on earth is in Oceans. It also exists in the air as vapour, in rivers and lakes, in ice-caps, in glaciers, and in the ground as soil moisture. **Only 2.5% of the total water on earth is fresh water** and of this, **only 0.3% is in liquid form on the earth's surface.**

A report by NITI Aayog, COMPOSITE WATER MANAGEMENT INDEX- 2019, says that the water crisis in India is more threatening than is perceived. A report prepared in association with Ministry of Jal Shakti and Ministry of Rural Development suggests that India's urban population is expected to reach 600 million by 2030, and fulfilling its water needs will be a great challenge. According to the report, **India is home to 17% of world's population but has only 4% of the world's fresh water resources.**<sup>1</sup>

*According to the World Health Organization, Iron was found in water supplied to 30% or 19,720 rural Indian households, as stated in an answer to the Lok Sabha on March 16, 2017. Iron is known to cause respiratory system haemorrhage when mixed with drinking water. Also, Arsenic was found in the drinking water source of 21% of such households.*

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<sup>1</sup>NITI Aayog (2019), *Composite Water Management Index*, Available at: Pg 187 <https://niti.gov.in/sites/default/files/2019-08/CWMI-2.0-latest.pdf>, accessed on 07 Jan, 2020

# RIGHT TO WATER AND INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTS

In July 2010, **United Nations (UN) General Assembly Resolution** 64/292 acknowledged the human right to water - right to receive safe, affordable, and clean accessible water and sanitation service. It was acknowledged that safe and clean drinking water as well as sanitation are basic human rights necessary for the enjoyment of life.<sup>2</sup>

## Defining the Right to Water in SDGs

According to the United Nations, the **right to water** entitles everyone to have access to sufficient, safe, acceptable, physically accessible and affordable water for personal and domestic use.<sup>2</sup> In September 2015, the General Assembly adopted the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** that includes 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)<sup>3</sup>. Building on the principle of **'leaving no one behind'**, the new agenda emphasizes a holistic approach to achieving sustainable development for all. In these, the **6<sup>th</sup> Goal** is to **ensure the availability and sustainable management of Clean Water and Sanitation for all**.

### TARGETS FOR GOAL 6

1. By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes.
2. By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all

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<sup>1</sup>UNW-DPAC, *The Human Right to Water and Sanitation*, Available at: [www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/pdf/human\\_right\\_to\\_water\\_and\\_sanitation\\_milestones.pdf](http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/pdf/human_right_to_water_and_sanitation_milestones.pdf)

<sup>2</sup>UN Water, *Human Rights to Water and Sanitation*, UNITED NATIONS, Available at: <https://www.unwater.org/water-facts/human-rights/>, accessed on 07 Jan, 2020

<sup>3</sup> *Department of Economic and Social Affairs Disability*, #Envision2030 **Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation**, UNITED NATIONS, Available at: <https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/envision2030-goal6.html>, accessed on 07 Jan, 2020



3. By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations
4. By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally.
5. By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity.
6. By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through trans boundary cooperation as appropriate.
7. By 2030, expand international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries in water- and sanitation-related activities and programmes, including water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse technologies.
8. Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management.

**South Africa has declared “Right to Water” as a Constitutional Right. The Supreme Court of South Africa has defined *Right to Water* as:**

- It must be ensured that all people have physical access to water.
- This means that the facilities that give access to water must be within safe physical reach for all sections of the population, especially for vulnerable and marginalised groups.
- It must ensure that all people have economic access to water. This implies that the cost of accessing water should be pegged at a level that would ensure that all people are able to gain access to water without having to forgo access to other basic needs.
- Where water is provided, i.e. the right is guaranteed, they should be protected against undue infringement.

# INTERNATIONAL MILESTONES FOR WATER RIGHTS: TIMELINE

## March 1977, Mar del Plata UN Water Conference

The Action Plan from the United Nations Water Conference recognised water as a right for the first time declaring that “All peoples, whatever their stage of development and social and economic conditions, have the right to have access to **DRINKING WATER** in quantities and of a quality equal to their basic needs”.

## December 1979, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

The Convention sets out an agenda to end discrimination against women, and has reference of water within its text. Article 14(2)(h) of CEDAW provides: “States parties shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in rural areas in order to ensure, on a basis of equality of men and women, that they participate in and benefit from rural development.

(h) To enjoy adequate living conditions, particularly in relation to housing, sanitation, electricity and **WATER SUPPLY**, transport and communication”

## November 1989, Convention on the Rights of the Child

The Convention explicitly mentions water. Article 24(2) states: “States Parties shall pursue full implementation of this right and, in particular, shall take appropriate measures: ... to combat disease and malnutrition, including within the framework of primary health care, inter alia, the application of readily available technology and through the provision of adequate nutritious foods and **CLEAN DRINKING WATER**, taking into consideration the dangers and risks of environmental pollution:...

## January 1992, International Conference on Water and Sustainable Development (Dublin Conference)

Principle 4 of the Dublin Conference states that “... it is vital to recognize first the basic right of all human beings to have

access to **CLEAN WATER** and sanitation at an affordable price”

### **June 1992, United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio Summit**

Chapter 18 of Agenda 21 endorsed the Resolution of the Mar del Plata Water Conference that all peoples have the right to have access to **DRINKING WATER**, and called this “the commonly agreed premise.”

### **September 1994, United Nations International Conference on Population and Development**

The Programme of Action of the UN International Conference on Population and Development affirms that all individuals: “have the right to an adequate standard of living for themselves and their families, including adequate food, clothing, housing, **WATER** and sanitation.”

### **December 1999, UN General Assembly Resolution A/Res/54/175 “The Right to Development”**

Article 12 of the Resolution affirms that “in the full realization of the right to development, inter alia: (a) The rights to food and **CLEAN WATER** are fundamental human rights and their promotion constitutes a moral imperative both for national Governments and for the international community”.

### **September 2002, World Summit on Sustainable Development**

The Political Declaration of the Summit states “We welcome the Johannesburg Summit focus on the indivisibility of human dignity and are resolved through decisions on targets, timetables and partnerships to speedily increase access to basic requirements such as **CLEAN WATER**, sanitation, energy, health care, food security and the protection of biodiversity”.

### **November 2002, General Comment No. 15 on the right to water**

General Comment 15 interprets the 1966 International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) confirming the **RIGHT TO WATER** in international law. This



Comment provides guidelines for the interpretation of the right to water, framing it within two articles, Article 11, the right to an adequate standard of living, and Article 12, the right to the highest attainable standard of health. The Comment clearly outlines State parties' obligations to the right and defines what actions would constitute as a violation.

Article I.1 states that “The **HUMAN RIGHT TO WATER IS INDISPENSABLE** for leading a life in human dignity. It is a prerequisite for the realization of other human rights”.

### **July 2005, Draft Guidelines for the Realization of the Right to Drinking Water and Sanitation, E/CN.4/Sub.2/2005/25**

These draft guidelines, contained in the report of the Special Rapporteur to the UN Economic and Social Council, El Hadji Guissé and adopted in Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, are intended to assist government policy makers, international agencies and members of civil society working in the water and sanitation sector to implement the **RIGHT TO DRINKING WATER** and sanitation. These Guidelines do not legally define the right to water and sanitation, but rather provide guidance for its implementation.

### **November 2006, Human Rights Council Decision 2/104**

The Human Rights Council “Request the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, taking into account the views of States and other stakeholders, to conduct, within existing resources, a detailed study on the scope and content of the relevant human rights obligations related to equitable access to **SAFE DRINKING WATER** and sanitation under international human rights instruments, which includes relevant conclusions and recommendations thereon, to be submitted prior to the sixth session of the Council”.

### **December 2006, Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**

Article 28, defines the right of persons with disabilities to an adequate standard of living and states “State Parties to

recognize the right of persons with disabilities to social protection and to the enjoyment of that right without discrimination on the basis of disability, and shall take appropriate steps to safeguard and promote the realization of this right, including measures: (a) To ensure equal access for persons with disabilities to **CLEAN WATER SERVICES**, and to ensure access to appropriate and affordable services, devices and other assistance for disability-related needs”

### **March 2008, Human Rights Council Resolution 7/22**

Through this resolution, the Human Rights Council decided “To appoint, for a period of three years, an independent expert on the issue of human rights obligations related to **ACCESS TO SAFE DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION**”

### **July 2010, UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/64/292**

For the first time, this UN Resolution formally recognises the right to water and sanitation and acknowledges that clean drinking water and sanitation are essential to the realisation of all human rights. The Resolution calls upon States and international organisations to provide financial resources help in capacity-building and technology transfer to help countries, in particular developing countries, to provide safe, clean, **ACCESSIBLE AND AFFORDABLE DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION FOR ALL.**



# RIGHT TO WATER IN INDIA

In India, **the constitutional right to access to clean drinking water** can be drawn from the right to food, the right to clean environment and the right to health, all of which have been protected under the broad heading of the **RIGHT TO LIFE**, guaranteed under **Article 21** of the Constitution. A detailed review of international treaties suggests that the drafters of the Constitution of India implicitly considered water to be a fundamental resource. Later, access to water was one of the several explicit rights protected by international rights conventions and agreements. It is believed that basic human rights cannot be attained or guaranteed without also guaranteeing access to basic clean water.

## *In addition to Article 21,*

**Article 39 (b)** mandates that ‘the State shall, in particular, direct its policy towards securing that the ownership and control of the material resources of the community are so distributed as best to sub serve the common good.’

**Article 47** suggests duty of the State to raise the level of nutrition and the standard of living and to improve public health. The State shall regard the raising of the level of nutrition and the standard of living of its people and the improvement of public health as among its primary duties and, in particular, the State shall endeavour to bring about prohibition of the consumption except for medicinal purposes of intoxicating drinks and of drugs which are injurious to health.

**Article 51 (A) (g)** specifically deals with the fundamental duty with respect to Environment. It states that

“It shall be the duty of every citizen of India - to protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wild life, and to have compassion for living creatures. It is important to note that Article 51 (A) (g) imposes a fundamental duty, “to protect and improve the natural environment” only on the “citizens” of India. This may be

construed as imposing no obligation on “non-citizens” for the purpose.”

**Article 262** is related with adjudication of disputes relating to waters of Inter State Rivers or river valleys

(1) Parliament may by law provide for the adjudication of any dispute or complaint with respect to the use, distribution or control of the waters of, or in, any Inter State River or river valley

(2) Notwithstanding anything in this Constitution, Parliament may by law provide that neither the Supreme Court nor any other court shall exercise jurisdiction in respect of any such dispute or complaint as is referred to in clause (1) Co-ordination between States Originally the “Right to safe drinking water” is not a part of the constitution as a fundamental right. Water rights exist in the Indian Constitution as riparian rights under Article 262 which was created to resolve state river water disputes.

*Ramesh lives in a remote village of Uttar Pradesh’s **Bundelkhand region**. For the last few years, his life has been miserable due to draught. The water bodies are dry and there is no access to ground water due to geographical conditions. Earlier, he had to travel miles everyday to get a small quantity of drinking water, until a piped water supply reached his village. Although, the water supply is limited to few hours, it has made a huge difference in Ramesh’s life.*

## **INTERVENTION OF SUPREME COURT**

**Though various Acts and provisions have been passed in the past half century, there is a conceptual gap and no express provisions have been explored so far as the legislative measures in India are concerned. The gap has been bridged by the judiciary with liberal interpretation of various provisions of the Indian Constitution.**

The concept of right to “healthy environment” has been developed as part of the right to life under Article 21 of our



Constitution of India. The right to clean drinking water has been protected by the courts as a negative right i.e. “the right of water sources not to be polluted”.



Supreme Court of India

### **Subhash Kumar v State of Bihar (1991)<sup>5</sup>**

In this case, the Supreme Court of held that

*“the right to live ‘includes the right of enjoyment of pollution-free water and air for full enjoyment of life. If anything endangers or impairs that quality of life in derogation of laws, a citizen has right to have recourse to Article 32 of the Constitution for removing the pollution of water or air which may be detrimental to the quality of life.”*

### **Vellore Citizens’ Welfare Forum v. Union of India (1996)<sup>6</sup>**

In this case, a writ petition was filed against the large-scale pollution caused by tanneries and other industries in the state of Tamil Nadu. The petitioners alleged that untreated effluent was being discharged into agricultural fields, waterways and open land, which ultimately reached the Palar river which was the main source of water supply to the

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<sup>5</sup> Subhash Kumar v. State of Bihar, AIR 1991 SC 420.

<sup>6</sup> Vellore Citizens’ Welfare Forum v. Union of India, AIR 1996 SC 2715.

residents of the area. The effluents had spoiled the physio-chemical properties of the soil and had contaminated the groundwater by percolation. After carefully examining the facts of the case, the Supreme Court, while recognizing the common law right of the people to a clean and healthy environment, awarded compensation to the victims of pollution on the basis of the ‘precautionary principle’ and the ‘polluter pays principle’.

Importantly, the Supreme Court held that

*“The constitutional and statutory provisions protect a person’s right to fresh air, clean water and pollution-free environment, but the source of the right is the inalienable common law right of clean environment.”*

### **Delhi Water Supply and Sewage vs State of Haryana (1996)<sup>7</sup>**

In its order, the Supreme Court said that

*“Water is a gift of nature. Human hand cannot be permitted to convert this bounty into a curse, an oppression. The primary use to which the water is put being drinking, it would be mocking the nature to force the people who live on the bank of a river to remain thirsty, whereas others incidentally placed in an advantageous position are allowed to use the water for non-drinking purposes. A river has to flow through some territory; and it would be travesty of justice if the upper-riparian States were to use its water for purposes like irrigation, denying the lower riparian States the benefit of using the water even for quenching the thirst of its residents.”*

### **M.C. Mehta v. Kamal Nath (1997)<sup>8</sup>**

In this case, the court declared that

*“Our legal system – based on English common law – includes the public trust doctrine as part of its jurisprudence. The State is the trustee of all-natural resources which are by nature meant for public use and enjoyment. Public at large is the*

<sup>7</sup> Delhi Water Supply and Sewage v. State of Haryana, AIR 1996 SC 2992.

<sup>8</sup> M.C. Mehta v. Kamal Nath, (1997) 1 SCC 388.

<sup>9</sup> A.P. Pollution Control Board II v. Prof. M.V. Nayudu, (2001) 2 SCC 62.

*beneficiary of the seashore, running waters, air, forests and ecologically fragile lands. The State as a trustee is under a legal duty to protect the natural resources. These resources meant for public use cannot be converted into private ownership.”*

### **A.P. Pollution Control Board II v. Prof. M.V. Nayudu (1999)<sup>9</sup>**

In this case, the AP government had granted an exemption to a polluting industry and allowed it to be set up near two main reservoirs in Andhra Pradesh – the Himayat Sagar lake and the Osman Sagar lake, in violation of the Environment Protection Act 1986. The Supreme Court struck down such exemption and held that *the “Environment Protection Act and The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1974 did not enable to the State to grant exemption to a particular industry within the area prohibited for location of polluting industries. Exercise of such a power in favour of a particular industry must be treated as arbitrary and contrary to public interest and in violation of the right to clean water under article 21 of the constitution on India. The Government could not pass such orders of exemption having dangerous potential, unmindful of the fate of lakhs of citizens of the twin cities to whom drinking water is supplied from these lakes. Such an order of exemption carelessly passed, ignoring the ‘precautionary principle’ could be catastrophic.”*

### **Narmada Bachao Andolan v. Union of India (2000)<sup>4</sup><sup>10</sup>**

In this case, the Supreme Court observed that

*“Water is the basic need for the survival of human beings and is part of the right to life and human rights as enshrined in Article 21 of the Constitution of India....and the right to healthy environment and to sustainable development are fundamental human rights implicit in the right to “life”<sup>11</sup>.*

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<sup>1</sup> Narmada Bachao Andolan v. Union of India, (2000) 10 SCC 664.

<sup>2</sup> Narmada Bachao Andolan v. Union of India, (2000) 10 SCC 664

<sup>3</sup> State of Karnataka v State of Andhra Pradesh, (2000) 9 SCC 572

<sup>4</sup> P. R. Subhash Chandran v Government of Andhra Pradesh & Others (2001)



## State of Karnataka v State of Andhra Pradesh (2000)<sup>12</sup>

In this case, the Court held that *“the right to water is a right to life, and thus a fundamental right.”*

## P.R. Subhash Chandran v. Government of Andhra Pradesh & Others (2001)<sup>13</sup>

In this case, the Supreme Court stated that *“state is responsible for providing clean drinking water to the citizens.”*

## LAWS TO PROTECT THE ‘RIGHT TO WATER’

In India many laws have been enacted regarding water and water-based resources. Most of these are concerned with water supply for drinking purposes, irrigation, and rehabilitation of evacuees affected by the operations of schemes for water resources management. However, none of these laws enumerate an explicit ‘right to water’.



*Parliament of India*

## Indian Easements Act, 1882

Indian Easements Act was passed long before the Independence of India in 1882 by the then British rulers. This Act recognises the **RIGHT OF A RIPARIAN OWNER** (someone who owns the land adjoining a river or water stream) to unpolluted waters. A riparian owner has a **RIGHT TO USE THE WATER OF THE STREAM** which flows past his land equally with other riparian owners, and to have the water come to him undiminished in flow, quantity and quality and to go beyond his land without obstruction.



**Section 7 of the Easement Act** provides that every riparian owner has the right to the continued flow of the waters of a natural stream in its natural condition without destruction or unreasonable pollution.

### **Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974**

The Water Act provides for the constitution of the central and state pollution control boards empowered to carry out a variety of functions which include establishing quality standards, research, planning and investigations to promote cleanliness of streams and wells and to prevent and control pollution of water. No person without obtaining the consent of the state board can establish any industry, etc. which is likely to discharge sewage or trade effluents.

This act empowers state boards to issue directions to any person, officer or authority, including orders to close, prohibit or regulate any industry, operation or process and to stop or regulate the supply of water, electricity or any other service. Parliament initiated a positive economic incentive for controlling water pollution by levying tax on water consumed by certain industries and local authorities.

### **The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986**

The Environment (Protection) Act extends to water quality and the control of water pollution. Section 2(a) of the Act defines the environment to include water and the interrelationship which exists among and between water and human beings, other living creatures, plants, micro-organisms and property. The Act authorizes the Central Government to establish standards for the quality of the environment and for emissions of discharge of environmental pollutants from any source.

## **THE GOVERNMENT POLICY AND DECISIONS**

The Indian government was relatively late to begin working on a **National Water Policy (NWP)**. The first NWP was published in 1987 in response to a severe drought. The main principles outlined in this policy were:

- Conjunctive use of water from surface and sub-surface sources.
- Supplemental irrigation.
- Water-conserving crop patterns.
- Water-conserving irrigation and production technologies.
- Raising canal water charges.
- Promoting user participation in canal management.

***The NWP was amended and updated in 2002.*** Some of the major changes to the policy were:

- An explicit recognition that there was a role for the private sector to play.
- A change from concentration on new projects to maintenance of existing ones.

*Section 7.2 of the NWP of 2002 calls for water to be priced in such a way to*

*“reflect the full recovery of the cost of administration, operation and maintenance of water resources projects taking into account the cross subsidy.” This is laying the groundwork for the entry of private operators and multinational corporations. The NWP calls for the State to begin gradual withdrawal from the role as service provider and shift it to “regulation and control of services.” The service provision would shift to “community and/or private sector with an appropriate “public-private partnership” (PPP) model.”*

## **National water policy, 2012**

National water policy, 2012 address the problem of water scarcity. It also talks about water pricing and optimal use of water resources. It says

“large parts of India have already become water stressed. Rapid growth in demand for water due to population growth, urbanization and changing lifestyle pose serious challenges to water security.”

## **USES OF WATER as mentioned in National water policy, 2012**

- Water is required for domestic, agricultural, hydro-power, thermal power, navigation, recreation, etc. Utilisation in all these diverse uses of water should be optimized and an awareness of water as a scarce resource should be fostered.
- The Centre, the States and the local bodies (governance institutions) must ensure access to a minimum quantity of potable water for essential health and hygiene to all its citizens, available within easy reach of the household.
- Ecological needs of the river should be determined, through scientific study, recognizing that the natural river flows are characterized by low or no flows, small floods (freshets), large floods, etc., and should accommodate developmental needs. A portion of river flows should be kept aside to meet ecological needs ensuring that the low and high flow releases are proportional to the natural flow regime, including base flow contribution in the low flow season through regulated ground water use.
- Rivers and other water bodies should be considered for development for navigation as far as possible and all multipurpose projects over water bodies should keep navigation in mind right from the planning stage.
- In the water rich eastern and north eastern regions of India, the water use infrastructure is weak and needs to be strengthened in the interest of food security.
- Community should be sensitized and encouraged to adapt first to utilization of water as per local availability of waters, before providing water through long distance transfer. Community based water management should be institutionalized and strengthened.

## **CENTRAL WATER COMMISSION**

*Central Water Commission is a premier Technical Organization of India in the field of Water Resources and is presently functioning as an attached office of the Ministry of Jal Shakti, Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Government of India. The Commission is entrusted with the general responsibilities of initiating, coordinating and furthering in consultation of the State Governments concerned, schemes for control, conservation and utilization of water resources throughout the country, for purpose of Flood Control, Irrigation, Navigation, Drinking Water Supply and Water Power Development. It also undertakes the investigations, construction and execution of any such schemes as required. Central Water Commission CWC is headed by a Chairman, with the status of Ex-Officio Secretary to the Government of India. The work of the Commission is divided among 3 wings namely, Designs and Research (D&R) Wing, River Management (RM) Wing and Water Planning and Projects (WP&P) Wing. Each wing is placed under the charge of a full-time Member with the status of Ex-Officio Additional Secretary to the Government of India and comprising of number of Organizations responsible for the disposal of tasks and duties falling within their assigned scope of functions.*

## **MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

Ministry of Jal Shakti was formed in May 2019. This was formed by merging of two ministries;

- *Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation*
- *Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation*

The ambit of the ministry encompasses issues ranging from international and inter-states water disputes, the Namami



Gange project, the flagship initiative to clean the Ganges, its tributaries and sub-tributaries and to provide clean drinking water. While forming the new ministry government claimed that **“All the water related works has been merged under one ministry,”**



## JAL JEEVAN MISSION

Government of India has recently set the ambitious target of providing **piped clean drinking water to all rural households by 2024**. This Mission, under the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, will focus on integrated demand and supply side management of water at the local level, including creation of local infrastructure for source sustainability like rainwater harvesting, groundwater recharge and management of household wastewater for reuse in agriculture. The **Jal Jeevan Mission** will converge with other Central and State Government Schemes to achieve its objectives of sustainable water supply management across the country. The government has identified 1592 Blocks which are critical and over exploited, spread across 256 Districts for the Jal Shakti Abhiyan.

On 15<sup>th</sup> August, our **Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi**, announced Jal Jeev Mission (JJM) with an aim to provide **'HAR GHAR JAL' (Functional Household Tap Connection)** to every home in India. Since, then, National Jal Jeevan Mission (NJJM), Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS), along with State Governments, has been working to ensure that each household gets functional tap water connection providing assured water supply in adequate quantity and of prescribed quality on a regular and long term basis.

**JJM aimed at providing piped water supply to village level institutions viz Anganwadi centres, schools, Ashramshalas (tribal residential hostels for children), Health centres, Wellness Centres, Gram Panchayat buildings, Community Centres, Community toilets etc.**

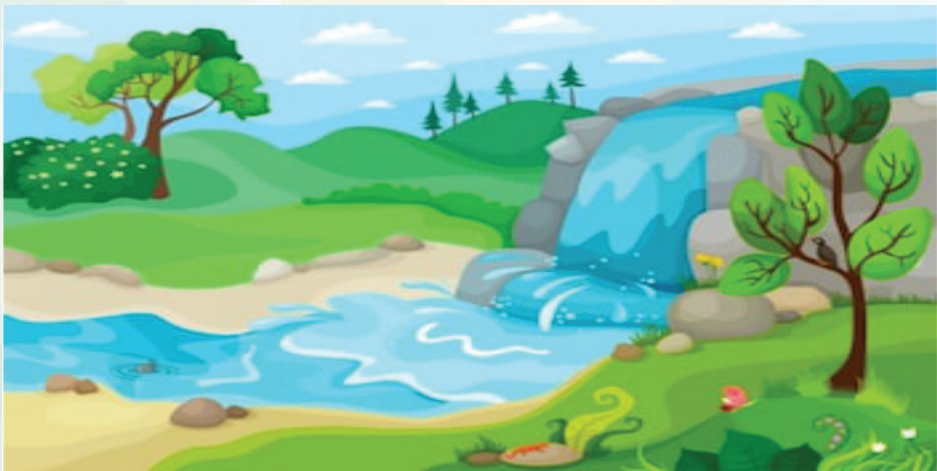
According to Ministry of Jal Shakti, Department of Water and **Sanitation's document on "100 days Campaign to provide piped water supply in Anganwadi Centres, Ashramshalas and schools"** states that in one-year of JJM, 2.40 crore rural households have been provided new tap water connections. Around 1.61 lakh habitations have 100 cent coverage of tap connections. **Goa became the first state in the country to have achieved 100 % Household tap water supply connections.** Around 112 new water testing laboratories have been set up and approx. 21.7 lakh water sources have been tested in the last on-year.

During Covid-19 pandemic, field officials and other water supply service providers are being sensitized to adhere to protocols/advisories issued by the Central or State governments during execution of water supply projects.

## NATIONAL WATER MISSION

National Water Mission was drafted by Ministry of Water Resources through wider consultative process. The main goals of the National Water Mission are

- Comprehensive water data base in public domain and assessment of impact of climate change on water resources
- Promotion of citizen and State action for water conservation, augmentation and preservation
- Focused attention to vulnerable areas including overexploited areas
- Increasing water use efficiency by 20%
- Promotion of basin level integrated water resources management

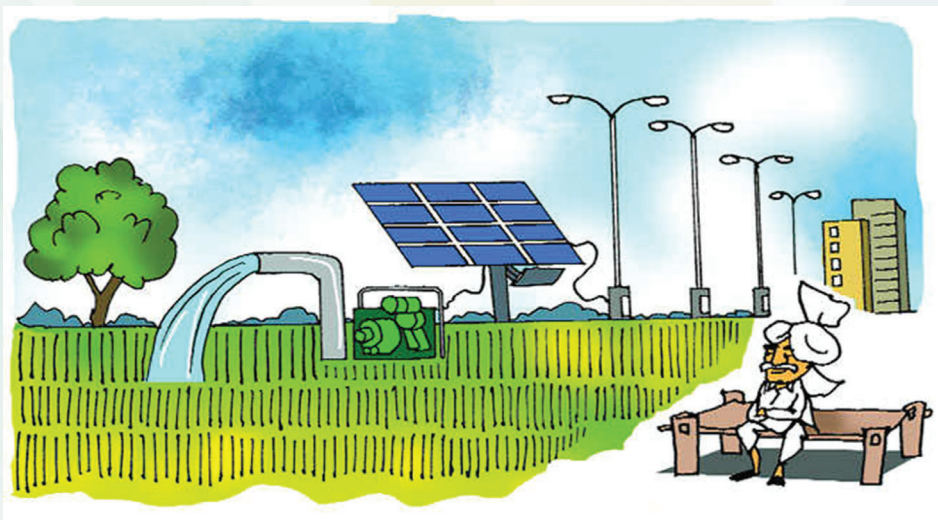


**For achieving this, various strategies have been identified as under:**

- Research in area of increasing water use efficiency and maintaining its quality in agriculture, industry and domestic sector
- Incentivize recycling of water including wastewater



- Development of eco-friendly sanitation system
- Improve efficiency of urban water supply system
- Efficiency labelling of water appliances and fixtures
- Promotion of water efficient techniques and technologies
- Undertake Pilot projects for improvement in water use efficiency in collaboration with States
- Promote Water Regulatory Authorities for ensuring equitable water distribution and rational charges for water facilities
- Promote mandatory water audit including those for drinking water purposes
- Adequate provision for operation & maintenance of water resources projects
- Incentive through award for water conservation & efficient use of water
- Incentivize use of efficient irrigation practices and fully utilize the created facilities







WALDEN IS BEHIND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT  
A WISDOMY ACT AND FORM OF REVOLUTION

National Human Rights Commission  
India

RIGHT TO FOOD  
AND  
RIGHT TO SHELTER

National Human Rights Commission  
India

RIGHT TO SANITATION

National Human Rights Commission  
India

KIDNAPPING/ABDUCTION,  
TRAFFICKING (ITPA AND IPC);  
WRONGFUL CONFINEMENT

National Human Rights Commission  
India

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE POLICE  
TOWARDS  
THE VULNERABLE SECTIONS OF SOCIETY

National Human Rights Commission  
India

THE EMPLOYER'S RESPONSIBILITY AS PER  
THE MINIMUM WAGES ACT,  
THE PAYMENT OF GRATUITY ACT,  
THE PENSION ACT

National Human Rights Commission  
India

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE EMPLOYER  
(MCCIR ACT, 1946  
AND  
THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT, 1948)  
AS REGARDS PROVIDENTS AND  
TRUSTS AS PER LABOUR ACT 2008

National Human Rights Commission  
India

Constitutional and Civil Rights  
to Private Scheduled Caste And  
Scheduled Tribe Students of  
This Law segment, Which Harshly

National Human Rights Commission  
India

RIGHTS OF SENIOR CITIZENS

National Human Rights Commission  
India

RIGHT TO WATER

National Human Rights Commission  
India



**NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION, INDIA**

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