

Sector Specific Report (Water) November 2021 Edition



Policies Covered In The Edition

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National Jal Jeevan Mission: "Har Ghar Jal Yojana"

Recently the Government of India has reviewed the progress of the Jal Jeevan Mission at various states through state-level screening committees and allocated the fund of Rs 10,870 Crore and Rs 7,064 Crore for 2021-22 to Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra respectively. The mission was started by the government on15thAugust 2019 to provide clean, safe, and enough drinking water to individual rural households in the country by 2024. As per projections, it is expected that every household in North-West India will get the tap water connection by 2022.



The main agenda of the Jal Jeevan Mission is to provide adequate water facilities to every rural family who has to face problems related to one of the necessities of life such as water. Under the mission so far 50 percent of the families have been benefited. This is a successful attempt to connect every family of the country with tap water and is closely working with the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan to bring clean water to all the villages. Through this, the citizens living in rural areas will get new employment opportunities and get a new perspective on their economic status.

Along with providing domestic working tap connection to all rural households, the mission will also encourage the works for the management of local water bodies. Through Jal Jeevan Mission, water connections will also be made available to Anganwadi centers, schools, Gram Panchayat buildings, health centers in the rural areas. Under this, around 19 crores 17 lakh, 20 thousand 832 rural families are expected to receive the benefit and get the tap connection facility.



This mission will help the government to restructure the demand and supply-side management of water at the local village level. Bulk water transfer treatment plants and distribution networks will be set up in the demanding areas to meet the needs of rural households. In the areas where there is a problem in the quality of water, a system of technological intervention will be made available. The provision of preventing water pollution under the 'Gramin Jal Jeevan Mission' is also serving a great purpose for rural families in terms of health and other benefits.

The major benefit of the mission will be for the women and adolescent girls who were facing major issues due to the unavailability of water in their houses, now they will not have to walk miles on their foot to fetch fresh drinking water for the household needs. This will play a major role in making the lives of women easier. Females will be able to do their household work on time if an adequate water facility is available in their houses and can use their free time for other economic and social activities.

As per the projections of the mission, the rural families will get freedom from all waterrelated problems and can increase the source of drinking water in the villages. This will help the upcoming generation to be aware of water conservation and judicial use of water and understand the advantage of conserving water and water resources for the future.



Namami Gange Programme National Mission for Clean Ganga

At the world forum of COP-26 held from 31 October to 13 November 2021. The Ganga Connect Exhibition has been organized. The exhibition is planned by the National Mission for Clean Ganga along with C-Ganga and the High Commission of India in the UK. This will provide an international platform to discuss and showcase the multiple aspects related to the river system and bring various stakeholders together. The various facets such as river basin, bio diversity, and climate change impact and their implications have been discussed in this exhibition. The international collaborations were also discussed to meet the challenges of the river system as per the "Namami Gange Programme".

	Sewerage Treatment Infrastructure		River-Front Development
	River-Surface Cleaning	X	Bio-Diversity
town the	Afforestation		Public Awareness
	Industrial Effluent Monitoring		Ganga Gram

Basic Pillars of Namami Gange Program

The Government of India in 2014 launched this flagship program as integrated Ganga Rejuvenation Master plan named 'Namami Gange' to end the pollution of the river Ganga and revive the pious Indian river. The implementation of this program is the responsibility of the Department of Water Resource, River Development, and Ganga Rejuvenation under the Ministry of Jal Shakti.

Implementation Timeline (Estimated Project Duration: 18 Years)

Entry Level Activity	Medium Term Activity	Long Term Activity
To Create visible impact immediately	To Create change in the span of 5 Years	To Create substantial Changes within the time frame of 10 years



The initial level activities range from cleaning the upper surface of the river to solving the problem of floating solid waste, cleaning of rural areas to sewage (solid and liquid) coming from rural drains and construction of toilets; Renovation, modernization, and construction of crematoriums to prevent the discharge of half-burnt or partially burnt bodies into the river, with the goal of building, repairing and modernizing ghats to improve the symbiotic relationship between people and river.

A population of 450 million lives in the basin of river Ganga. Simultaneously, the Ganges passes through five states and accounts for 25.2% of the total water source of the country. The Ganga has been declared a national river, but it flows only at the will of the states it touches during its course. The Ganga touches 5 Indian States Uttarakhand, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, and thus are covered under Namami Gange Project for implementation.

To address such an important implementation issue, in 2019-20 the Union Government has created a roadmap to make this a 100% Central government plan through quadrupling the budget for the cleaning of river Ganga with the budget allocation of Rs 20,000 Crore. The mission is also funded by the World Bank for the development and improvement of infrastructure projects and to eliminate pollution in the river basin.



To restore the quality of such a large and long river Ganga strong mutual collaborations and huge investments are required. To address this, Clean Ganga Fund has been created in which any one can contribute money and provide their support in the process of cleaning the river, Ganga. But still, most people are not aware that the water we use and the filth of our homes eventually ends up in rivers if it is not treated properly and every individual is some or the other way increasing the pollution in the river basin.

The government is already building infrastructure related to drains but we, as a citizen can contribute to the mission by reducing the use of waste and water. The program can benefit greatly from the recovery and reuse of used water, organic waste, and the removal of single-use plastics.

Financial Year	Final Allocation (Rs. in crore)	Actual release by Government of India to National Mission for Clean Ganga (Rs. in cr.)		
2014-15	2,053.00	326.00		
2015-16	1,650.00	1,632.00		
2016-17	1,675.00	1,675.00		
2017-18	3,023.42	1,423.12		
2018-19	2,370.00	2,307.50		
2019-20	1,553.44	1,553.40		
2020-21	1,300.00	1,300.00		
2021-22*	1,450.02**	575.00		
Total	15,074.88**	10,792.02		
(*up-to 30 June 2021)				

Fund Spending on Namami Gange Programme

The national river Ganga which is the symbol of our continuous and old civilization, culture as well as Indian heritage, needs continuous protection and along with the government, every individual needs to help in its revival. After the completion of all the projects under the "Namami Gange Programme", the water of all the major cities will not go into the Ganges without treatment and provide a clean river basin and help the bio diversity grow in their natural habitat.



Jal Shakti Abhiyan: "Catch the Rain"

The national-level water conservation campaign of the Ministry of Jal Shakti has come to an end on 30^{th} November 2021. The campaign was launched on 22^{nd} March 2021 with the objective of water conservation at the source with the theme of "Catch the rain, where it falls, when it falls". The duration marks the Pre Monsoon and Monsoon time of the year and this is the best period for conservation that has been identified by the government. This plan has been divided into several parts so that water can be prevented from getting spoiled and maximum attention can be paid to water conservation.

The problem of water availability in rural and urban areas is very old, but till now the government could not take any major step in the field of water conservation. Even today crores of people in India are facing water scarcity for their daily needs. The rural areas of India are badly affected by water scarcity, the public has to depend only on the water tanks sent by the government at many places. After realizing the importance of this issue, the central government has started this campaign at the national level to develop rainwater harvesting infrastructure with public participation. The infrastructure developed has been specific to local climate conditions and subsoil strata.

Progress of Jal Shakti Abhiyan (As of 19th December 2021)



India is a country where due to population explosion and increasing industrialization, water resources were being adversely affected in the past. Till now people used to use more underground water but no measures have been taken to conserve this limited yet necessary resource, so as per environmentalists and scientists if the water pollution has not been addressed soon, the natural sources of water will be exhausted and will pose threat to human lives.

Thus the central government is devising new methods for water conservation at the source

and emphasis will be laid down on conserving rainwater throughout the country under the campaign. Minor and major reservoirs have also been included in the initial stage. Along with afforestation which means more and more plantations across the country, the management of the watershed system to help in increasing the water level is the need of the hour.

According to the NITI Aayog 2019 report on Composite Water Resource Management, It is expected that there will be no groundwater left by 2020 in 21 Indian cities and this situation will impact 100 million people around these areas. In this report, 255 districts were placed in the high-risk zone, where there is already a shortage of water supply. It is explicitly clear that the State governments are not able to conserve natural water bodies like lakes, ponds, wells, and rivers, while environmentalists also have given warning on the depleting water level in the natural reservoirs. If these reservoirs are properly conserved, water scarcity can be reduced to a great extent and can be used for water supply in both rural and urban areas.

To make people aware of the re-use of uncontaminated water is one of the main features of the campaign. The government needs to work together on developing more water recycling plants along with conservation infrastructure. The water thus treated will not be harmful and can be delivered directly to the affected areas by pipe line. The government has set a target of constructing 1.95 crore houses in rural areas. Apart from this, the most difficult and ambitious target is to supply water to all such households by 2024. Emphasizing the Jal Shakti Abhiyan, the Finance Ministry also underlined the necessity to focus on the Har Ghar Jal program at the core of such schemes.

The government has envisaged this campaign with the close co-operation of the Ministry of Jal Shakti along with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change. The scheme will be completed in a short span of 5 years as there is an urgent need for groundwater conservation to fulfill the increasing need of the growing population and restrict the depletion of groundwater.

In such campaigns, the collective effort of the government, society, NGOs, etc is needed. As it is important to create awareness of the issue of water conservation among the masses. The experience of various professionals will also be used to develop effective water conservation techniques. Many organizations such as National Cadet Corps, Nehru Yuva

Kendra Sangathan, are providing help in the implementation of the scheme to create a diverse change in the field of water conservation. This will be much easier for the government if people understand the severity of the issue and realize that their existence is in danger due to the lack of water and take necessary steps at individual levels.





Resources

- 1. <u>https://jaljeevanmission.gov.in/</u>
- 2. https://ejalshakti.gov.in/imisreports/
- 3. <u>https://pib.gov.in/PressReleseDetail.aspx?PRID=1771241</u>
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- 17. https://jsactr.mowr.gov.in/
- 18. <u>https://www.ibef.org/blogs/jal-shakti-abhiyan-addressing-india-s-water-</u> <u>conservation-goals</u>
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