

# Concept Note

## ***Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain-2022” Campaign***

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### **Jal Shakti Abhiyan 2019**

In 2019 Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti launched Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA), covering 1592 blocks out of the 2836 blocks in 256 water stressed districts of the country, in two phases, as a time bound campaign intended to improve water availability in these blocks. Phase-I from 1st July, 2019 to 30th September, 2019 (other than phase II states) and Phase-II from 1st October, 2019 to 30th November, 2019 in the Southern States namely Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Puducherry, which receive rains from retreating monsoon.

### **Catch the Rain Campaign**

After its successful implementation of Jal Shakti Abhiyan in 2019, the Ministry of Jal Shakti planned to take up the Jal Shakti Abhiyan -II (JSA -II), covering all blocks of all districts of the country but could not be taken up due to Covid -19 pandemic-imposed restrictions. However, to keep its continuity, a campaign. “Catch the Rain” with the tagline “Catch the Rain – where it falls when it falls” was started by National Water Mission in March 2020. Due to the restrictions imposed by the lockdown, it primarily focused on government/private institutions with large tracts of lands with them. Catch the Rain campaign of 2020 evoked a very good response across the country and was supported by Ministries/ Departments of Central and State Government, Airport Authority of India, Railways, Armed Forces, Central Armed Police Forces, universities, educational institutions including IITs & IIMs, Central Public Sector Enterprises etc

### **Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch The Rain 2021**

The “Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch The Rain” (JSA:CTR) campaign with the theme “Catch the Rain, where it falls, when it falls” was launched by Hon’ble Prime Minister, Shri NarendraModi on 22 March 2021, the World Water Day, in a function in New Delhi, in which he addressed officers of departments concerned in the Central & State Governments, District Magistrates/ District Collectors/ Deputy Commissioners of Districts & Sarpanchs of Gram Panchayats (GPs) of all States via Video Conferencing. He also interacted with 5 Sarpanchs, one each from Maharashtra, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Uttarakhand- to discuss Water Conservation issues in their villages. This was followed by special Gram-Sabhas held in all GPs, to discuss water related issues and “Jal Shapath” taken by people. With a total of 2.69 lakh GPs in the country and on an average 50 people attending each Gram Sabha, this could probably be the biggest ever launch in the world of a water conservation campaign.

Jal Shakti Abhiyan : Catch The Rain campaign, taken up in all 729 districts (7213 rural blocks and all urban areas) of the country during the pre-monsoon and monsoon period, i.e from March 2021 to 30 November 2021, was to “nudge the stakes and stakeholders to create and maintain appropriate Rain Water Harvesting Structures (RWHS), suitable to the soil strata & climatic conditions of the area, using convergence of all relevant funds, with people’s participation, before the onset of monsoons so that they are ready to “catch the rain, where it falls, when it falls.”

Hon’ble Prime Minister wrote DO letters to Chief Ministers of all states seeking their co-operation in this campaign. He also wrote letters (dated 24.03.2021) addressing all Sarpanchs in the country, urging them to take steps for water conservation, play active role in JSA:CTR campaign and to ensure community participation.

The JSA:CTR campaign implemented by National Water Mission (NWM), had the following 5 focused interventions-

**(a) Rainwater harvesting & water conservation**

Water conservation & rainwater harvesting included renovation of traditional and other water bodies/ tanks; recharge using old bore wells; watershed development; Activities taken up under this included roof-top RWHS on all buildings- with priority for government buildings, water harvesting pits in all compounds, maintenance of old/ building of new check dams/ponds; removal of encroachments of tanks/lakes, desilting of tanks to increase their storage capacity, removal of obstructions in their channels, repairs to traditional stepwells and other RWHS, use defunct bores/unused wells to recharge aquifers, rejuvenation of small rivers and rivulets, revival of wetlands and protection of flood-banks. These works are taken up in rural areas from funds under MGNREGS or Finance Commission grants or locally mobilized; in urban areas from AMRUT and its own funds and in forest areas with CAMPA funds.

**(b) Enumerating, geo-tagging & making inventory of all water bodies; preparation of scientific plans for water conservation**

Every district was to enumerate all existing water-bodies/Water Harvesting Structures (WHS) based on old revenue records and using remote sensing images from NRSA and GIS mapping technology and using the data to plan scientifically new WHS. NWM had prepared guidelines for preparation of GIS based water conservation plans and inventory of water bodies of districts and forwarded it to all the districts for its implementation. To facilitate the DMs to get GIS mapping done; make inventory of all water bodies & scientific water conservation plans and to set up Jal Shakti Kendras, NWM provided incentive-based financial grant up to Rs.2 lakh to each district - Rs. 1 lakh initially and the balance Rs 1 lakh, based on the performance and quality of work done in this planning process in each district.

### **(c) Setting up Jal Shakti Kendras in all districts**

State Governments were to set up 'Jal Shakti Kendras' (JSKs) in all district HQs. These JSKs are to act as resource or "knowledge centers" for disseminating information related to water, techniques for water conservation and water saving and also provide technical guidance to local people as well as to the district administration.

### **(d) Intensive afforestation**

Afforestation drive taken up to plant saplings to increase green cover.

### **(e) Awareness generation**

Awareness generation to be taken up to make Jal Andolan a Jan Adolan.

## **Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain - 2022**

On account of success of Jal Shakti Abhiyans of 2019 and 2021 in generating awareness amongst the citizens of the country, it is proposed that "Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain"- 2022 (JSA:CTR) campaign is launched by Hon'ble President of India on 29<sup>th</sup> of March 2022 with following modalities:

JSA:CTR-2022 may be taken up in all districts (rural as well as urban areas) of the country with the main theme "Catch the Rain, where it falls, when it falls" The campaign may be implemented from 01 Apr 2022 to 30 November, 2022 - the pre-monsoon and monsoon period in the country. Under this campaign the targeted activities are being undertaken under the following interventions:

#### **a) Water Conservation and Rain water Harvesting**

It includes making of roof-top Rain Water Harvesting Structures (RWHS) on buildings and water harvesting pits in compounds; maintenance of existing RWHS & creation of new check dams/ponds, removal of encroachments of tanks/lakes and in their catchment channels, de-silting of tanks.

b) Renovation of Traditional and other Water Bodies/ Tanks/ Step-wells/ Baolis.

c) Reuse and recharge structures.

d) Watershed Development

e) Revival of wetlands and protection of flood-banks.

f) Protection of water catchment area

#### **g) Spring-Shed development**

h) **Enumerating, geo-tagging & making inventory of all water bodies**

i) Development of Scientific District Water Conservation Plan.

j) Rejuvenation of River/ Rivulets.

**k) Setting up of the Jal Shakti Kendra in all districts.**

l) Intensive Afforestation.

m) Awareness generation.

The department of Water Resources, RD&GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti is a nodal department of the campaign. This campaign will be carried out from 01<sup>st</sup> April 2022 to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022. A national level JSA:CTR dash board <http://jsactr.mowr.gov.in/> was developed in JSA: CTR 2021 that shows the progress of states/districts against key JSA:CTR interventions. A mobile map was also developed for geo-tagging of assets being created. The application of these portals and App is extended to JSA: CTR-2022 also. Through these Portal and Mobile App Line Ministries, States, Districts, NGOs and others could report the progress on JSA: CTR-2022.

### **Creation/ Rejuvenation of 75 Water Bodies in every district to commemorate Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM)**

India is celebrating the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, marking 75 years of Independence from British rule this year. It has been decided that, in order to commemorate this momentous occasion, 75 water bodies will be created or rejuvenated in every district. These will be called Amrit Sarovars. The creation/rejuvenation of the Amrit Sarovars will be a special effort under JSA-CTR 2022.

As a part of this exercise, District authorities have been requested to –

- (i) Identify possible sites for the creation of new water bodies. This may be done by using contour maps of the District, identifying available lands that are already in the possession of the Government. The exercise may also include afforestation/tree planting around water bodies and its catchment area.
- (ii) In the case of rejuvenation of existing water bodies, there are detailed guidelines that have been issued by the National Water Mission. Rejuvenation may include cleaning/de-silting, removal of encroachments, ensuring that the channels for water flow are clear and treatment of the catchment area, if required. It may also include actions to improve water quality, if required. This exercise has to be completed within this Financial Year.

Resources for this activity will be available both from MGNREGA and PMKSY funding and these resources may be accessed. In addition, the broad guidelines issued under the Jal Shakti Abhiyan will apply.