पंकज कुमार PANKAJ KUMAR सचिव SECRETARY



भारत सरकार
जल शक्ति मंत्रालय
जल संसाधन, नदी विकास
और गंगा संरक्षण विभाग
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES,
RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

D.O.No.M-96011/2/2022-NWM/MOWR/865 Dear Skri Agarwal,

9<sup>th</sup> March, 2022.

I am writing to you because it is time to prepare for the rains again, to mobilize to ensure that we are ready to recharge our water reserves and enhance our water security.

You will recall that the **Jal Shakti Abhiyan 2019 was a national call to action for water conservation and recharge.** A collaborative effort of the Government of India, State Governments and communities, it was an intensive time-bound campaign to accelerate progress on water conservation and recharge activities in 256 districts.

Under this campaign, targeted activities were taken up under 5 key areas of intervention, which were Water conservation and rainwater harvesting; Renovation of traditional and other water bodies/tanks; Reuse and recharge structures; Watershed development; and Intensive afforestation.

Through JSA- 2019, our combined efforts achieved the creation of 2.73 lakh water conservation and rainwater harvesting structures, renovation of 45,000 water bodies/ tanks, creation of 1.43 lakh reuse and recharge structures, 1.59 lakh watershed development related works, 12.36 crore trees planted and preparation of 1372 block water conservation plans. Beyond these numbers, the campaign created a strong environment for bringing together all stakeholders working on water recharge and management. Many States have done more than what was originally planned. Some States extended the campaign to all their districts, going beyond the water stressed districts that were selected initially.

Encouraged by the response, the scope of JSA 2019 was expanded and the "Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch The Rain" (JSA: CTR) campaign was launched in 2021 in all districts (rural as well as urban) in the country. JSA:CTR was implemented from 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021 to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021 period with the theme "Catch the rain, where it falls, when it falls".

Since the launch on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021 till 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021, both urban and rural areas put together about 42 lakh water related works were taken up, in addition to 36 crore afforestation activities carried out under the campaign. The expenditure under MGNREGS alone is more than Rs. 58,000 crore.

It has been decided to take up "Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain" – 2022, which will be launched in the last week of March. The campaign will be taken up in all the districts (rural as well as urban areas) of the country from the end of March to



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November 30, 2022, the pre monsoon and monsoon period. Focused interventions of the campaign will include (1) **intensive rainwater harvesting and water conservation** which include 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; renovation of traditional WHS; removal of encroachments of tanks/lakes and in their catchment channels; de-silting of tanks, reuse and recharge of borewells; watershed development; rejuvenation of small rivers and rivulets; revival of wetlands and protection of flood-banks, springshed development, protection of water catchment areas, etc; (2) enumerating, geo-tagging & making inventory of all water bodies; preparation of scientific plans for water conservation based on it (3) Setting up of Jal Shakti Kendras in remaining districts (4) intensive afforestation and (5) awareness generation.

It is requested to nominate a senior officer of the rank of Joint Secretary as the Nodal Officer for coordination and monitoring the progress of the campaign. I urge you to instruct the concerned officers for seamless coordination for effective implementation of the campaign and monitor inter-sectoral convergence of the developmental schemes being implemented by your Ministry/ Department. It is further requested that intensive water related works/ activities may be undertaken under the schemes implemented by your Ministry/ Department while taking this campaign in the current year.

Yours sincerely,

(Pankaj Kumar)

Shri Sanjay Agarwal, Secretary Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare Krishi Bhawan, Dr.Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi - 110001

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