

G. ASOK KUMAR, IAS
Addl. Secy. & Mission Director
National Water Mission



भारत सरकार/GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
जल शक्ति मंत्रालय/MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI
जल संसाधन, नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण विभाग
DEPTT. OF WATER RESOURCES,
RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
राष्ट्रीय जल मिशन/NATIONAL WATER MISSION

D.O.No.M.65022/16/2020-NWM-MOWR

Dated: 09/12/2020

Dear

Please refer to my DO letters dated 11th May 2020 and 9th October 2020 regarding National Water Mission's (NWM) 'Catch the Rain' campaign and setting up of 'Rain Centers' in your district.

2. National Water Mission has been extensively propagating setting up of appropriate Rain Water Harvesting Structures (RWHS) and Artificial Recharge Structures (ARS) across the country as it ensures availability of water for future use and will help in meeting the water requirements of communities. Therefore, Government authorities have been making intensive efforts to popularize and implement RWHS in government and private buildings, houses and housing societies, institutions and in public places.
3. Despite increasing awareness and legislative & fiscal interventions, the growth of RWH sector has been slow and only less than 10% of the country's rain water is being collected and stored for future use. Among other things, one of the reasons contributing to this sluggish growth is lack of an agency which can provide technical know-how for setting up of the appropriate RWHS.
4. With this background, National Water Mission requested the state authorities for setting up of 'Rain Centres' (RCs) or "Jal Shakti Kendra" (JSK) in district headquarters to give technical guidance on RWHS & ARS. It is reiterated that these RC/JSKs can just be a "virtual office" with highly publicized mobile phone number, attended by "Jal-Rakshaks" who can be persons from government, local bodies or SHG/NGOs capable of answering queries from public on making RWHS suitable to the area. These can also act as knowledge centers on water linked topics like RWHS, restoration, de-silting of water bodies, ground water recharging, water saving practices in agriculture, industry, drinking water etc. This request was also made in the weekly webinars conducted on every Saturdays by the NWM with 4-5 selected DMs/DCs and Municipal Commissioners.
5. Setting up of 'Rain Centres' or 'Jal Shakti Kendras' is a crucial link in accelerating the pace of creation of RWHS in the country. You may expedite the process of setting up of 'Rain Centres' or 'Jal Shakti Kendras' in your district. The details these and the persons identified to man these centers may be sent to catchtherain.nwm@gmail.com or to md.nwm@gov.in. This will facilitate NWM to organize technical training programs in virtual platforms on developing RWHS to the persons identified to function as 'Jal-Rakshaks'.

Yours sincerely


(G.Asok Kumar)

District Magistrates/District Collectors/Deputy Commissioners of all States and UTs

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D.O. No M.65022 / 09/2020 -NWM/2689-3407

Dated: 9/10/2020

Dear DM/DC,

National Water Mission (NWM), one of the 8 missions set up in 2011 under the National Action Plan for Climate Change (NAPCC), had initiated a campaign-- "Catch the rain" -- with a tagline "Catch the Rain -- when it falls & where it falls" to nudge all stake-holders to create Rain Water Harvesting Structures (RWHS) suitable to the climatic conditions and sub-soil strata. Drives to make water harvesting pits, rooftop RWHS and check dams; removal of encroachments and de-silting of tanks to increase their storage capacity; removal of obstructions in the channels which bring water to them from the catchment areas; repairs to step-wells and using defunct bore-wells to recharge aquifers, etc., are some of the activities taken up peoples' participation in this campaign.

2. I had sent DO letters on this subject to Chief Secretaries of all states, DCs/DMs of all districts and also to Heads of institutions like Airport Authority of India, Railways, Army, Air force, Navy, Ordnance Factories/PSUs/Universities/Colleges/ etc which have large tracts of land under their jurisdiction requesting them to take steps to conserve rainwater in their compounds. This has evoked good response. Weekly webinars with 4-5 selected DMs/DCs and Municipal Commissioners are being organized by NWM on every Saturdays since 8 August, 2020 to get the feedback from ground.

3. As mentioned in my DO letter no. M.65022/01/2020 dated 11th May 2020 to all DMs/DCs giving details about the 'Catch the Rain' Campaign, it is reiterated that "Rain Centres" (RCs) may set-up in every district or GP headquarters, to give technical guidance to people on Rain Water Harvesting Structures (RWHS). These RCs can just be a "virtual office" with a highly publicised mobile phone number, attended by persons from government, local-bodies or SHG/NGOs who can answer queries from public about making RWHS suitable to the area. These RCs can later act as "Jal Shakti Kendras" or knowledge centres on water-linked topics like RWHS, restoration, desilting of water bodies, ground water recharging, water saving practices in agriculture, industry, drinking water etc.

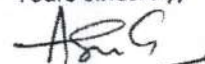
4. You may also take steps to set-up Rooftop Rain Water Harvesting Structures (RRWHS) in all government owned buildings, particularly on all Government schools, PHCs and Anganwadi buildings in your district before the next monsoon. These works can be started now. MNREGS funds are permitted to be used to take up these structures, following its guidelines.

5. I request you take to necessary steps in establishing "Rain Centres" in your district and give it a wide publicity. Please take up RRWHS on all government buildings before the next monsoon, to "Catch the Rain".

6. It is requested that you may send the details to catchtherain.nwm@gmail.com or to md@nwm.gov.in and also to popularise the Catch the Rain logo to promote awareness about it in your district. <http://nwm.gov.in/catchtherain> has more details.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,


(G. Asok Kumar)

District Collectors / District Magistrates / Deputy Commissioners of all Districts / UTs

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D.O.NO.M-65022/1/2020-MD(NWM)

Dated: 11th May 2020

Dear District Magistrate/ District Collector/ Deputy Commissioner,

Greetings from the National Water Mission (NWM).

It is well appreciated that you all are playing a leading role in the country's war against Covid-19 virus. Without blurring the focus on this health related issue, let me also draw your attention to the conservation of important resource--- water---in the ensuing days. Hon'ble Prime Minister himself, has from many platforms, exhorted citizens to join hands with the government to conserve water to secure the future.

A DO letter dated 24/4/2020, signed by four Secretaries of Government of India, was sent to Chief Secretaries of all states, requesting them to issue directions to the district authorities take steps for water conservation. Government of India has permitted utilisation of MNREGA funds for the water conservation works. A DO letter, dated 27-2-2020, was also sent by me to Chief Secretaries, requesting for advance action at district levels to "Catch the rain", where it falls, when it falls.

NWM's campaign-- "Catch the rain" -- is to nudge all stake-holders to create Rain Water Harvesting Structures (RWHS) suitable to the climatic conditions and sub-soil strata, before the onset of monsoon, to ensure storage of rain water. Drives to make water harvesting pits, rooftop RWHS and check dams; removal of encroachments and de-silting of tanks to increase their storage capacity; removal of obstructions in the channels which bring water to them from the catchment areas; repairs to step-wells and using defunct bore-wells to put the water back to aquifers etc., are some of the activities suggested to be taken up with peoples' active participation under this campaign. You may visit nwm.gov.in for more details.

As Collector/DM/DC you have to play a leadership and motivational role in taking up water conservation in the district.

I request you to take steps to ensure appropriate rain water harvesting and artificial recharge measures in all catchment zones under your jurisdiction before the onset of the monsoon season and send reports and photos of activities undertaken to catchtherain.nwm@gmail.com or md.nwm@gov.in

Yours Sincerely,


(G. Asok Kumar)

All District Magistrates/ District Collectors/ Deputy Commissioners

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