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 / 01/2020 -NWM /1385

Dated 10th June, 2020

Dear Prof Seshu,

Greetings from the National Water Mission (NWM)

National Water Mission (NWM) is one of the 8 missions set up in 2011 under the National Action Plan for Climate Change (NAPCC) guided by the Prime Minister's Council. The main objective of NWM is to "*conserve water, minimize wastage & to ensure its more equitable distribution both across and within the states through integrated water resource development and management*". Promotion of citizen and state actions for water conservation, augmentation and preservation is one of the goals of NWM.

2. Water is a prime life-sustaining natural resource that cannot be created. India is having 18% of world's population, but has only 4% of its fresh water resources. The per-capita per-year availability of water has come down from 5177 cubic-meters in 1951 to 1545 cubic-meters in 2011. Though unevenly spread temporarily and spatially, India receives sufficient rainfall to cover most areas of the country. However, presently India stores approximately 8% of this water. With the increasing demand, this is leading to water crisis year after year. Effectively managing the fast depleting water resources is also of strategic importance. Prime Minister has from many platforms and many times exhorted citizens to join hands to conserve water to secure the future.

3. National Water Mission'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, by first week of June itself- ie before the onset of monsoon, to catch the rains. Drives to make water harvesting pits, rooftop RWHS, check dams etc; 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 etc; 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

4. Rainwater harvesting (RWH) and Artificial Recharge structures are water conservation practices that can be used to expand the existing water supply. Rainwater "harvesting," or the capture of rainfall runoff from roofs or similar hard surfaces of the campus that would normally escape to sewers or overland flow, provides a high-quality source of water that can be used to extend an installation's water supply.

5. IITs have large land areas and hence it is requested that all the rain water falling in the campus be impounded in or under the ground within the campus by creating appropriate RWHS.

6. Further, it is also advised to move towards the dual piping systems inside the campus buildings so that greywater from kitchens & bathrooms after primary filtration can be used for flushing systems and irrigation in parks & gardens of the campus. This can reduce the use of potable water for non-potable uses.

7. I request you to take steps to ensure appropriate rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge measures before the onset of the monsoon season.

8. You may please inform the action taken and send relevant pictures by email to md.nwm@gov.in or catchtherain.nwm@gmail.com.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(G Asok Kumar)

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