

गजेन्द्र सिंह शेखावत  
Gajendra Singh Shekhawat

D.O. No./M-65022/02/2020-NWM



सत्यमेव जयते

जल शक्ति मंत्री  
भारत सरकार

Minister for Jal Shakti  
Government of India

20/7/20



Honorable Capt Amrinder Singh S.B.  
Sat Shi Akal!

National Water Mission (NWM) is one of the 8 missions set up under the National Action Plan for Climate Change with an objective to "conserve water, minimize wastage and to ensure its more equitable distribution both across and within the states through integrated water resource development and management". NWM has identified 5 goals and 39 strategies to achieve its objective.

Under its Goal 2, "Promotion of citizen and state actions for water conservation, augmentation and preservation", NWM has initiated "Catch the rain" campaign. This campaign with tag line "catch the rain, where it falls, when it falls" is to nudge all stake-holders to create Rain Water Harvesting Structures (RWHS) *suitable to the climatic conditions and sub-soil strata to store 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 traditional water harvesting structures like step-wells and using defunct bore-wells and old 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.

Additional Secretary & Mission Director, NWM has written to Chief Secretaries of all States/ UTs on 27.02.2020 requesting to prepare a plan of action; initiate steps to set up Rain Centers in all districts and to take up development of RWHS in all areas. Vice Chairman NITI Ayog in his DO letter dated 23.6.2020 to Chief Secretaries has asked all states to support the campaign. Copies of the aforesaid letters are enclosed for reference.

I request you to direct officers concerned to take steps to make appropriate rain water harvesting and artificial recharge measures in all catchment zones to "Catch the Rain" so that not a drop of rain water goes waste and to send reports and photos of activities undertaken to [catchtherain.nwm@gmail.com](mailto:catchtherain.nwm@gmail.com) or [md.nwm@gov.in](mailto:md.nwm@gov.in).

Also enclosed is a copy of a book, "Water Talk- 2019-20 series- The essence", which is a collection of the essence of lectures delivered by eminent water experts, activists, practitioners etc in the monthly "Water Talk" organised by NWM since March 22, 2019 to promote dialogue and information sharing on a variety of water related topics. This book contains some best practices on water conservation and management from different parts of the country, which are replicable.

With regards,

Vai Hind!

Yours Sincerely,

(Gajendra Singh Shekhawat)

Capt. Amarinder Singh  
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Punjab,  
Room No.1, 2nd floor, Punjab Civil Secretariat,  
Sector- 1, Chandigarh, 160001



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