



**PANKAJ KUMAR**

Secretary  
Deptt. of Water Resources,  
River Development & Ganga  
Rejuvenation

**VINI MAHAJAN**

Secretary  
Deptt. of Drinking Water  
& Sanitation

**MANOJ JOSHI**

Secretary  
Ministry of Housing &  
Urban Affairs

**SUNIL KUMAR**

Secretary  
Ministry of Panchayati Raj,

**MEETA RAJIVLOCHAN**

Secretary  
Department of Youth  
Affairs

**MANOJ AHUJA**

Secretary  
Department of Agriculture  
& Farmers' Welfare

**AJAY TIRKEY**

Secretary  
Department of Land  
Resources

**HIMANSHU PATHAK**

Secretary  
Department of  
Agricultural Research &  
Education

**LEENA NANDAN**

Secretary  
Ministry of Environment,  
Forests & Climate Change

**SHAILESH KUMAR SINGH**

Secretary  
Department of Rural  
Development

**INDEVAR PANDEY**

Secretary  
Ministry of Women &  
Child Development

**SANJAY KUMAR**

Secretary  
Department of School  
Education & Literacy

**D.O. No. M-93012/1/2023-NWM-MOWR/449-484**

**14<sup>th</sup> March, 2023.**

Dear Chief Secretary,

As you are aware, in the meeting taken by the Cabinet Secretary on 25<sup>th</sup> February, with line Ministries of the Ministry of Jal Shakti and the Chief Secretaries of States/ UTs, completion of all preparatory works for the **Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch The Rain-2023 (JSA:CTR-2023)** was underlined.

2. JSA:CTR-2023 was launched in the presence of the Hon'ble President on 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2023 in all districts of the country, covering both rural and urban areas with the theme "**Source Sustainability for Drinking Water**" during 04.03.2023 to 30.11.2023. As source development/ augmentation of existing water sources is imperative to ensuring potable and quality drinking water, JSA this year will focus on strengthening the water source, particularly in 150 Water Stressed Districts (WSDs), identified by Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM).

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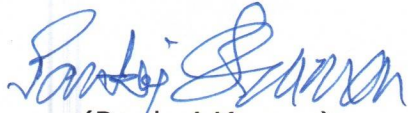
3. The focused interventions in the current year's campaign would include those of the previous years, viz., (1) water conservation and rainwater harvesting; (2) enumerating, geo-tagging & making inventory of all water bodies and preparation of scientific plans for water conservation based on it; (3) setting up of Jal Shakti Kendras in all districts; (4) intensive afforestation; and (5) awareness generation. Springshed development, protection of water catchment areas, removal of encroachment in water bodies & their renovation, source protection works and rejuvenation of small rivers & rivulets will be taken up as part of JSA:CTR as in earlier years. JSA:CTR will support Amrit Sarovars, as done in 2022. This year, "Source Sustainability for Drinking Water" being the theme of JSA:CTR, it is proposed that geo-tagging of all water sources of drinking water supply schemes may be undertaken and at least one recharge structure may be identified for implementation in each groundwater drinking supply source; geo-tagging of such recharge structures may also be done. Sanitation survey & source protection works may also be undertaken in villages where piped water supply is based on groundwater or spring sources.

4. It is suggested a number of activities which may be taken up during the implementation of the campaign (**list annexed**). These are indicative and other activities, as deemed appropriate, may also be taken up under the campaign. You may like to sensitize the concerned departments of the State Governments to immediately initiate action on these activities. A meeting with the concerned departments at your level would expedite their implementation.

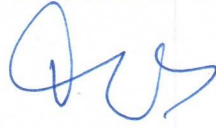
5. For seamless coordination and for effective monitoring and association with GoI Ministries, the State Government is requested to nominate a senior Secretary level officer as State Nodal Officer (SNO) to coordinate implementation of JSA;CTR. The SNO may be requested to ensure community mobilization for water conservation so that "*jalandolan*" may truly become "*janandolan*". Steps may be taken to encourage people from different walks of life to participate in the *abhiyan*. The Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan has been involving students and youth in the campaign. Their support may be taken for expanding the outreach of the campaign. *Jal Shakti se Nari Shakti* is an important outcome of JSA campaigns, which may be highlighted appropriately. Convergence of JSA: CTR, 2023 campaign with Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM 2.0) is solicited. Gram Sabhas may be asked to take *jalshapath* for water security of the village during the initial phase of the campaign. The District Collectors/District Magistrates/ Municipal Commissioners may be asked to proactively lead the campaign.

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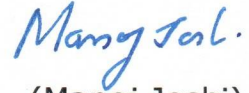
6. We hope that, like the preceding years, the Jal Andolan this year too will be a grand success under your direction and stewardship.



(Pankaj Kumar)  
Secretary  
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Resources, River  
Development & Ganga  
Rejuvenation,  
Ministry of Jal Shakti  
Government of India



(Vini Mahajan)  
Secretary  
Deptt. of Drinking Water &  
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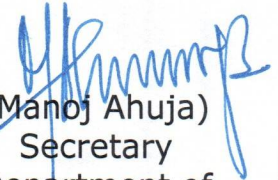
(Manoj Joshi)  
Secretary  
Ministry of Housing &  
Urban Affairs,  
Government of India



(Sunil Kumar)  
Secretary  
Ministry of Panchayati  
Raj,  
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(Meeta Rajivlochan)  
Secretary  
Department of Youth Affairs,  
Ministry of Youth Affairs &  
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(Indevar Pandey)  
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(Sanjay Kumar)  
Secretary  
Department of School  
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Ministry of Education,  
Government of India

**Proposed Role of Departments during implementation of JSA: CTR-2023**

**Housing and Urban Affairs**

- To involve states to take up water-conservation in urban areas and rejuvenation of urban water bodies & urban wetlands and their enumeration & boundary marking.
- To involve municipal authorities / development authorities for strict enforcement of building bye-laws mandating Rain Water Harvesting (RWH) and to inventorize & incentivize them who have made Rain Water Harvesting (RWH) compulsory in their building bye laws.
- Request municipalities to hold special 'Ward Level Sabhas' in water stressed municipalities for saving waters. Promotion of message of 'Jal Shakti se Nari Shakti' in Ward Sabhas.

**Land Resources**

- Focus on rejuvenation of water bodies and rejuvenation of spring sheds especially in hilly States and areas.

**Agriculture Research and Education**

- Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) to organize Krishi Melas and in-situ training in field through models promoting water conservation.

**Education**

- Letter has been sent from the Secretary Department of School Education to all State Education Secretaries vide Letter No. Do. No. 27/-4/2021 - IS-9/IS-10 dated 23rd February 2023 requesting for issue of appropriate instructions to teachers and school heads for ongoing JSA:CTR, 2023.
- An online course on "Catch The Rain-Jal Shakti Abhiyan" has been launched by the NCERT on DIKSHA portal on 20.02.2023 with a request by Secretary Education in the same letter to States to maximize participation of State and District level Nodal Officers.
- Take up roof top rain water harvesting structures and other RWHS schools, colleges, universities and other educational & technical institutions

**Rural Development**

- Speedy utilization funds released from MGNREGS for undertaking water related works, especially in 150 water related districts, including recharge structures for sources of piped water supply schemes,

springshed development and for source sanitation survey and protection works.

- Capacity Building of RD officials in Water related structure through trainings organised locally.
- To involve SHGs in water conservation works.

### **Panchayati Raj**

- To monitor the preparation of the Water Security Plan by the Panchayats for a water sufficient, clean and green village.
- States to issue directions to all Gram Panchayats to organize **gram sabhas** to discuss water conservation & water related issues and to take '**Jal Shapath**' with special focus in 150 water stressed districts on World Water Day on 22nd March.
- Encourage water budgeting at village level and close coordination between Panchayats and Water Users Association and SHGs.
- Promotion of message of 'Jal Shakti se Nari Shakti' in Gram Sabhas.

### **Public Health Engineering/ Rural water supply**

- Geotagging of all sources of piped water supply (PWS) schemes
- Technical support to Panchayats in identification of appropriate recharge structures
- To ensure that at least one recharge structure is identified and planned for each of the groundwater PWS sources.
- Overseeing implementation of water recharge works
- Geotagging of recharge structures.
- Identification of monitoring sites and measurements for pre and post monsoon water levels therein.

### **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare**

- Promotion of bio-diverse crops which are not water guzzlers such as millets, horticulture crops, etc.
- Promotion of micro irrigation systems (drip & sprinkler) 'Per Drop More Crop' programme.
- Farmers Producers Organisations (FPOs) to be given training on water saving crops and practices by water experts or with help of officials of MoJS in the States. One such initiative between Small Farmers Agri Consortium (SFAC) and Atal Bhujal Yojana (ABY) has already started.

## **Women & Child Development**

- Gender main-streaming in water sector - promote role of women in water governance/conservation & management.
- Promotion of the message of 'Jal Shakti se Nari Shakti' which is special focus of JSA:CTR-2023
- To take up roof top rainwater harvesting structures on the buildings and in the premises of all Aanganwadis during the campaign period.

## **Environment, Forest & Climate Change**

- To take up scientific afforestation activities in districts with special focus on 150 water stressed districts and in spring-shed areas.
- Ask States to take up rainwater harvesting structures in the premises and forest land under forest departments.
- To help the water resources department in strengthening of sources of water wherever technically feasible with special focus in 150 WSDs esp with planting of agro-climatically suitable saplings.

## **Youth Affairs**

- Continue with awareness generation campaign by NYKS through its field offices located all over the country.
- Mobilize people for conduct of gram sabhas and ward sabhas and through their channels.

## **Department of Agricultural Research & Education**

- Krishi Vigyan Kendras to organise KISAN MELAS and training on water to farmers.

## **Miscellaneous - Water Resources Department as Nodal Department**

- Overall supervision of JSA:CTR @2023 and to seek and extend support to all other partner departments and coordination on JSA -CTR with the Districts.
- To strengthen sources of water especially in 150 WSD Districts with own or convergent resources.
  - To facilitate the visit of Central Nodal Officers (CNOs) to Districts for monitoring of JSA:CTR activities.
  - To hold regular virtual meetings with DMs and DDOs for monitoring implementation of JSA:CTR, including setting up of Jal Shakti Kendras (a model advisory has been sent) with adequate footfall and as a one stop knowledge centre, geo tagging of water bodies, and scientific District Water Conservation Plans.