



REVIEW OF RESEARCH

ISSN: 2249-894X

IMPACT FACTOR : 5.7631 (UIF)

VOLUME - 11 | ISSUE - 6 | MARCH - 2022



JAL SHAKTI ABHIYAN IN INDIA: AN OVERVIEW

Dr. Sandeep. G. Tiwari

**Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science
Government First Grade College, Masnhalli Tq &Dt, Bidar, Karnataka.**

ABSTRACT

In India every year near to one million populations is affected by the scare city of water. India is amount to only 4% fresh water resources. The acute shortage of water for daily uses in urban and rural area has affected their normal life in summer days. Following the massive water crises across India more particularly in the summer days. The central government hurriedly launched the Jal Shakti Abhiyan with intend to improve the conditions in around 1500 blocks that are affected by drought, water stressed and over –exploited falling under 255 districts of nation with tag of over exploited ground water level. It is purely structured to creation of awareness among the people to how to use and conserve the water to enhance ground water table. The demand of time is to be convert this movement as ‘people’s movement’. The time has come to introspect how our rural development institutions (Panchayati Raj Institution) could able to convert these campaign as people campaign in rural India to preserve water resources to sustain future generation. The Jal Shakti yojana first time it was partly modelled and driven by some sporadic success stories such as NGO Tarun Bharat Sangh’s experiment in Alwar, Rajstan and Ralegan Siddhi village of Maharastra State.



KEYWORDS : scare city of water , acute shortage, conserve the water.

INTRODUCTION

Primarily these projects concern with building the tanks and ponds to harvest rainwater and building wells which are supportive to recharge ground water. Initial stage its intensity was unclear whether they were based on reference to watershed management or groundwater recharge prospect maps.

The water management projects should be opted on hydrological units, namely areas of river basin. And political and administrative boundaries of districts rarely coincide with the hydrological boundaries of districts or aquifer boundaries. Resulted However, this project in India planned based on boundary of the districts and it is fully carried out under the supervision of a bureaucrats. This resulted in the division of basin or aquifers into multiple units that followed multiple policies. There was no data on basin – wise rainfall, no analysis of run-off and ground and ground water maps were rarely used. As a result, one never came to know whether water harvested in a pond in a district was at the cost of water in adjoining districts.

THE STATEMENT OF PROBLEM

The Jal Shakti Yojana also fundamentally ignored the fact that most of India's water-stressed basins, particularly those in the peninsular regions, are facing closure, with the demand exceeding supply. Hence, groundwater recharge happened at the cost of surface water and vice versa. This where an absence of autonomous and know ledge –intensive river-basin organization is acutely felt.

The JSA's portal displays impressive data, images and statistics claims that there are around 10 million o going and completed water conservation structures; 7.6 million recharge structures. This website also says that one billion saplings have been planted and that six million people participated in awareness campaigns. But, data and statistics can deceive or lie as claimed by journalist Darrel Huffin his book *How to lie with Statistics*

The data displayed on portal of JSA portal do not speak anything about the pre-JSA water levels and impact of monsoon on the water levels across the 255 districts with critical and exploited blocks. They don't convey anything about the quality of the structures their maintenance and sustainability. Even if the water levels had been measured was accurate. Many such queries many unanswered and hidden behind these data and statistics. The result for a 2016 study conducted by the Central Ground Water Board showed that water levels always increase post-monsoon. Therefore, it will require long-term monitoring of water level data to determine the actual impact of a measure like JSA. At present, there is such parameter to measure the outcome of such a mission –mode campaign. The rat race among district for ranking has turned out to be meaningless.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

The present research paper is carried out with the following objectives.

1. To know the background of JSA.
2. To know the objectives of the JSA.
3. To Assess the issues and problems of JSA.
4. To Assess the possibilities of effective implementation of JSA under MNREGA.
5. To analysis the people participation in extension to JSA.

HYPOTHESIS OF THE STUDY:

The study on Jal Shakti Abhiyan in India constructed on the following hypothesis.

1. There is huge gap between data on JSA portal and reality of JSA.
2. The Gram Panchayats have utterly failed in converting JSA as people movement.
3. The poor water management in in agricultural and daily home use led the summer water crises in India.
4. The MNRGA which may help to implement JSA in an effective manner.
5. JSA needs peoples and NGO's Participation to realise its aims and objectives.

The Assumptions of JSA

The aim and intent of JSA are noble. But the assumption is distorted. It assumes that common people in rural areas are ignorant and prone to wasting water; on the contrary, they are the ones who first bear the brunt of any water crises. The per capita water allocation to those living in rural areas is 55 liters, whereas the same for urban areas like Delhi and Benguluru is 135-150 liters. The Jal Shakti Abhiyan movement reach out to poor people and farmers, asking them to 'save water' appears hypocritical, particularly when district administrations blatantly allow the sewage generated from towns and cities to pollute village water sources such as tanks pond and wells.

Lack of proper Management of water in Agricultural Sector:

It is difficult to say whether measures like JSA can provide long –term solutions. Because most of the farm bunds built with soil can collapse within one monsoon season due to rains and tress passing by farm vehicles animals and humans. Further, there are issues like lack of proper engineering supervision of these structures, involvement of multiple departments with less or no coordination and

limited funding under MNREGA and other schemes. Finally, there have hardly been many efforts undertaken to dissuade farmers from growing water-intensive crops such as paddy sugarcane and banana, when it is widely known that agriculture consumes 80% of freshwater.

The summer water crisis has not led to our policymakers learning many lessons, and the country just seems to have returned to a business as usual situation.

MNREGA and Jalshakti Abhiyan:

The Jal Shakti Abhiyan aims at accelerating water harvesting, conservation and recharge of all borewells, pond and other water resources of rural India Through MNREGA and Watershed Management Programme of the Rural Development Ministry.

MNREGA is the result of National Rural Employment Guarantee Act of 2005, aims at right to work to ruralities through the institutions of democratic decentralization. The work carried out under this MNREGA towards the mitigation of summer water crisis by enhancing the groundwater level thorough the construction of ponds, check dams, bunds and plantation. These institutions are pervasively failed to design a proper plan construction and supervision of these works. Even after the 15 years of its implementation, it made the ruralities to face the water crisis in the summer season.

There may be lot of possibilities for water storage to recharge ground water table in rural India but the political volition of local self-bodies more particularly Gram Panchayats are far away from this direction. They not do water conservative works as its primary duty. These institutions are indulging in showing caste cult or dominance in rural India. The predominant caste base discrimination particularly in implementation of such water conservative works by these institutions have reported in Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Karnatka, Orissa, Madhy Pradesh. The policy of favoritism, made vulnerable the Gram Panchayat's in selection of such area which prone to flood and drought.

Water save campaign

To achieve the motto of Jal Shakti Abhiyan there should be a knowledge and campaign of water management. This campaign seems to follow the model of Gram Swaraj Abhiyan , in which central officials have to monitored the implementation of seven flagship development schemes in 117 aspirational districts across the country. this Abhiyan identified 1186 blocks are over exploited as over exploited ground water area and 94 blocks with low groundwater availability. The reckless use of water for house needs, irregularities in management of time by water man appointed Gram panchayats in most of the villages the once electric water pumps are started they were kept in working for more than three or four hours, it made the flowing of pure drinkable water spoiled to as sewage water. In this way we are losing our priceless water resources.

The management house old and public well

The wells play very crucial role in sustain of life rural Indians since its evolution of our civilization. The rural India before, inception of its Panchayati Raj system till 1993, fully depends on these wells for daily use of water. After 1993, through the Panchayati Raj institution the state governments and the department of Rural Development took the initiatives to supply of water to public through the bore wells and hand pumps. Now these are aborted and failed by these institutions to rejuvenate for re-use of water again from these wells, in many villages of India. If, were managed by removing stilt, garbage and cap with electric pump. Villages are could able to manage summer water crisis. There is an urgent need to enhance their ground water table by making connectivity to rain harvesting. In rainy seasons, the rain water flowing towards low laying area without mechanism of storage.

The poor management by the Gram Panchayati's in works of water conservation and harvesting. No Grampanchayats in India which succeed in implementation water harvesting in every house in in rural India. There are innumerable problems are there. The lack problem proper street planning, joint walls houses and shortage of pace, these problem detached the ruralities to opt the water harvesting in their houses.

The construction of wells and pond in low laying area of desert and waste land: The gram Panchayats should take the initiatives to construct the wells and ponds in wherever open place available to restore the rain water to recharge the ground water. For example, in Rajstan, The Tarun Bharat Organization with the help of local youths and Gram Panchayat it built the wells and ponds in deserts to restore the rain water. It is taken by every Gram Panchayats .

Maintenance of village forest:

The realization of Jal Shakti Abhiyan also determined by the forest, the thick forest may have struck the water before it became waste and led the soil erosion. here also the village Panchayat may play very pivotal role in realization of Jal Shakti Abhiyan. The village forest or panchayat forest guarded by Panchayat itself, Panchayat has the right to establish reserved forest under its jurisdiction. The unfortunate thing is that now days Panchayats are starting to convert these lands into burial grounds to different castes. The Van Panchayat Programme was formed and approved in 1921. With intension to save rural green environment for multi-objectives along with water and soil conservation. In present estimate, only 6069 Van Panchayats managing 405426-hectares of forest. It covers 13.63% of forest out total area of forest. The Uttarakhand only state which successes to maintain its rural forest thorough this institution. The failure of Gram Panchayats to plant at least 200 saplings every year around the lake, canal, burial ground, Schools grounds and temples wherever could it possible. The survey on forest of 2021 reveals that the Gram Pamchayats have failed to increase the area of village panchayats. Under the MNREGA a Grampanchayat may have taken the initiative to implant the saplings but these institutions are utterly failed to plant the saplings under these schemes.

Rejuvenation of Urban waterbodies:

It is an urgent need of rejuvenation of urban water bodies in every city in general and of every city with population of above 2 lakha in particular which going to face severe drinking water crises by 2030. In this connection, JSA expect every city must take action to revive at least one or two water bodies such as lakes ponds, step wells and baouls have traditionally sources to serve the functioning of water requirement of drinking, washing, fishing, agriculture and religious and cultural purposes. In the present context these sources of water in every city either dried up or disappeared due to encroachment or dumping of garbage or convert to entry of untreated sewage. If these equipped with distilling, fencing, mapping, regular base supervision to remove from encroachment and protect them from entry of un treat sewage and garbage, they could able to store water and recharge ground water besides improving amenity and value of area.

Areas of Intervention:

To achieve the objectives of Jal Shakti Abhiyan, this mission has identifies following interventions to support its monitoring mechanism.

1. Water conservation intervention and rainwater harvesting.
2. Renovation of traditional water bodies and tanks.
3. Reuse, bore well recharge structures.
4. Water shed development.
5. Intensive afforestation.

It is the big task before all state and central government to achieve the goals of JalShakti Abhiyan with time bond to mitigate summer water crises of 255 districts of country under the MNREGA which is mammoth item of national budget to ensure basic infrastructure, conservation of natural resources with employment opportunity. To save our financial resources this to be implemented in an appropriate manner which postulated in National Compilation on Dynamic Ground Water Resources of India, 2017' report has identified four specific parameters to be observed by the state periodically over the next few years. These are (A). Increase in ground water level. (B). Increase in surface water storage. (C) Increase in the soil moisture. (D) Increase in area covered with plantation and number of samplings

planted. (E) Each officer who visited the district identified and geo-tagged specific structures under each of the intervention areas for measuring the outcomes of the program. The data received from them is currently being analyzed by a team led by the Principal Scientific Advisor.

REFERENCES:

1. Jebraj Priscilla, 'Govt, to start Jal Shakti Abhiyan for 255 Water stressed districts from July 1' The Daily,26 June 2019.
2. Namra Aman, 'A river is reborn' Business Line, published by The Hindu Group of Publications, Monday, June 05,2000.
3. Ministry of Jal Shakti, One Year of Jal Shakti 2019-20, '*Jalshakti-Janshakti: Making Water Every One's Business*' published by Government of India May,2020.
4. Huff Darrel, '*How To Lie With Statistics*' Pub. W.W.Norton &Company, New York City, 1993.
5. Ministry of Jalshakti Abhiyan, '*Har Ek Kadam Desh Ke Naam*' published by Department of Water Resources: River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation Government of India 2019.
6. Gudmundur Halldorson '*Effects of afforestation on Ecosystems, landscape and Rural Development*' Pub. Nordic Irland, 2008.
7. Mohan Rao. K.V.J. '*Water Treatment: Technology and Management*' published by Vayu Education of India, New Delhi, 2020.
8. Dr. M.N. Maulik, '*supply Water Treatment and Sewage Disposal*', Published by, Standard Book House, Ansari Road Dariya Ganj New Delhi 2018.
9. Sahu Chandra Pramod '*Ground Water Management In Drought Prone Area*' published by Kunal Books,Ansari Road Darya Ganj New Delhi, 2008.