

Integrated Water Resource Management for Water Stressed India

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Abstract

All over the world, there is a freshwater crisis mostly because of various human activities without much effort for increasing the fresh water resource, keeping it free of pollutant, proper distribution to the users and protecting the ecology of the planet. India is one of the countries situated in a water stressed region with very little sincerity in improving and managing its water resources. In order to have a sustained developed socio economic life, India should have an integrated water resource management. In this paper, a brief account of the principles of integrated water resource management which has been formulated and adopted some years back by the United Nation Conference on Environment and Development has been outlined. A brief account on planning of water projects in India taking into consideration of various aspects, have been given in brief. Some aspects of effective water management dealing with adoption of better water transport system, wetland development, rain water harvesting, mine and industries having their own water management, water consumption, water pricing and ecological impacts have been described and discussed. It is suggested that, both state and central governments while realizing the seriousness of water crisis should do the needful urgently to augment water resources, estimate the needs of water for various sectors and conserve and manage the resource in an efficient and effective manner, so that, the country can sustain its socio economic developments. The drinking water for all throughout the year, should be the primary goal.

Keywords: Water stressed India, integrated water resource management, planning of water projects, rain water harvesting, wetland development, recharging aquifer, water pricing, water conservation, ecological protection.