

JAL SHAKTI ABHIYAN

Prelims: Governance G4 - Schemes

Prelims Tag: Jal Shakti Abhiyan

Mains: GS2I - Government Policies and Interventions for Development in Various Sectors and Issues Arising out of their Design and Implementation.

Mains Tag: Jal Shakti Abhiyan, Water Conservation, Resource Management

Why in News?

- ✚ Jal Shakti Abhiyan for Water Conservation Launched.

Highlights:

- ✚ It is a time-bound, mission-mode campaign that would focus on 1,592 “water-stressed” blocks in 257 districts. The campaign will run through citizen participation during the monsoon season, from 1st July, 2019 to 15th September, 2019.
- ✚ The 1,592 blocks, identified as “water-stressed” as per the Central Ground Water Board’s 2017 data, include 313 critical blocks, 1,000-odd over-exploited blocks and 94 blocks with least water availability (for states without water-stressed blocks).
- ✚ Jal Shakti Abhiyan is a collaborative effort of various Ministries of the Government of India and State Governments, being coordinated by the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation.
- ✚ The focus of the campaign is on water stressed districts and blocks. The teams of officers from the central government will visit and work with district administration in 1592 water stressed blocks in 256 districts, to ensure five important water conservation interventions.
- ✚ The **Five Important Water Conservation Interventions** are:
 1. Water conservation and rainwater harvesting,
 2. Renovation of traditional and other water bodies/tanks,
 3. Reuse of water and recharging of structures,
 4. Watershed development and
 5. Intensive afforestation.
- ✚ The water conservation interventions will also be supplemented with special interventions including the development of block and district water conservation plans, promotion of efficient water use for irrigation and better choice of crops through Krishi Vigyan Kendras.

✚ A large-scale communications campaign has also been planned alongside the JSA involving mass mobilisation of different groups including school students, college students, swachhagrahis, Self Help Groups, Panchayati Raj Institution members, youth groups (NSS/NYKS/NCC), defence personnel, ex-servicemen and pensioners, among various others.

