



UNION BUDGET 2022-23

FOCUS ON WATER: BUDGET 2022 & BEYOND



Mohammed Abdul Rahman
CEO, Sahara Industry

About the Spokesperson

Mohammed Abdul Rahman is the CEO of Sahara Industry formed in 2003 with the sole purpose of providing best quality water treatment solutions to industries. An MBA in marketing & finance, he has 15 years of rich experience in handling various business activities and has been instrumental in taking his company towards success. His modern business approach supported by the technological intervention and his dynamic leadership qualities has made his group companies turnover exceeding INR 1000 million.

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India is home to 1402 million people, almost 17.7 percent of the world's population, but only has less than 4 percent of the world's water resources. This inherent lack of sufficient water resources is reinforced by a rapidly growing demand for water which is projected to overtake the availability of water throughout the entire country within this decade. Urbanization, increasing population, rapid industrialization, and increased economic activities have made the demand for water strong and it has become a challenging task to meet the expectation rising exponentially every year. Moreover, depletion of groundwater levels due to rising irrigation demand in major river basins is expected to become a reality very soon.

Until a few years ago, we were not talking about water the way we do it now. The water scenario has changed drastically in the last decade from abundance to scarcity. The liberalization process brought about the growth of our economy, our population, our prosperity; but also led to extracting more natural resources from the planet including a higher level of water extraction and use while also creating more pollution with these resources. The surface water availability per capita in India in 1991 was 2309 cubic meters which have been reduced to 1486 cubic meters by 2021. About 36% reduced in three decades and estimated to reduce further to only 1191 cubic meters in next less than three decades.

The government of India being aware of the situation has formulated the National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Water Resources Development which envisages the transfer of

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water from water surplus basins to water-deficit basins to improve the availability of water in the scarce regions. It also formulated guidelines for the States to adopt suitable measures to local conditions to promote recharge of groundwater with a focus on rainwater harvesting and water conservation measures.

The increasing water demand and falling per capita availability, water use and energy efficiency, deterioration of water quality, declining of available resources, loss of surface storage facilities, increasing conflict for water, inefficient use in irrigation, overexploitation, and depletion of groundwater resources, increasing water pollution and soil salinity in irrigated lands, lack of management of resources, aging and dilapidated water infrastructure in the country, untreated wastewater accumulation, ignorance of used water resources potential, significant change in usage pattern combined with urbanization and industrial growth has taken a big toll on the water sector in the country.

Budget 2022-23: Water in Focus

The Union Budget for the year 2022-23 is presented today and I am happy that the Honorable Finance Minister has allocated good resources towards water infrastructure development in the country. INR 60,000 crore budget for providing clean drinking water to 3.8 crore additional rural households in 2022-23 under the flagship scheme of Jal Jeevan Mission will bring a change in the lives of people. We at Sahara Industry are very hopeful that the issue of drinking contaminated and polluted water will be resolved with proper water treatment facilities being installed at all village and gram panchayat levels as well as in the individual households. The budget allocation under Swachh Bharat Mission, Clean Ganga, AMRUT Scheme, and River Interlinking



3672 FRP Pressure Vessel for Industrial RO Water Purification System installed in Le-Meridien



Ultra-Pure Water Treatment Plant



Industrial Water Treatment Plant



FRP Pressure Vessels



Fully Automatic Water Softener

projects will help in developing robust water and wastewater treatment and management facilities at various levels.

The allocations towards Water Supply, Irrigation, Sanitation, and Rural Infrastructure development will translate into enhanced economic activities in the rural heartland. It will also help India in attending to the water crisis situation and making clean drinking water available to people in the country.

Way Forward

With the emphasis of the government on expanding the network of water supply

infrastructure in urban and rural India through the Jal Jeevan Mission, ensure safe tap water to children in schools, groundwater irrigation under the PMKSY that aims to provide financial assistance to states for assured groundwater irrigation to small and marginal farmers for better agriculture produce, national hydrology project, rainwater harvesting under the master plan for artificial recharge of groundwater, Atal Bhujal Yojana for sustainable management of groundwater, creating smart cities will be proven effective over the decades.

Going forward; there will be a greater need for implementing intelligent and smart technology,

particularly for water treatment, demand–supply management, pumping solutions, water loss management, metering, and real–time water monitoring. India’s total water market is estimated to be worth more than USD 12 billion, and growing at the rate of 10 – 12 percent, making it amongst the largest water markets in the world. Since the government has shown an increased commitment to improving the water and sanitation sector in the country by opening up for foreign investment and privatization, we hope that international best practices, technology, and know–how will help India develop its water supply and water treatment systems in a more sustainable manner.

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