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## A conceptual study on national rural drinking water program

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### Abstract

It is important to know Rural Drinking Water is the item of State list but For improving the coverage of adequate and safe drinking water for drinking, cooking and other basic needs at the all time and in the each and every situation (even at the time of disaster) to the rural population or household. In this area Ministry of drinking water and sanitation provides technical & financial assistance through a Centrally Sponsored Scheme named 'National Rural Drinking Water Program (NRDWP)'. The Program was launched on 01.04.2009 and restructured in November 2017 since the program was started in 1972-73 as accelerating rural water supply program.

This study was conducted to review the scholarly article and reports to draw a conceptual structure about the scheme with the objective to know the basic fundamentals behind the program, to know the success rate of the program and to know about the barrier to achieving the ultimate goal of the program. A systematic approach was made in this article to capture and draw theoretical base about National rural drinking water program (NRDWP) on the basis of secondary sources. Data were collected from the periodicals, journal articles, governmental report (like as Comptroller and Auditor Journal of India's report) and non- governmental reports (like different privately funded research institutions report). The present study attempts to portray the conceptual structure of NRDWP in the field of drinking water and sanitation management under the umbrella of sustainable development goal.

**Keywords:** Sustainable development goal, rural drinking water program, centrally sponsored program

### Introduction

National Rural Drinking Water Programmed (NRDWP) is a centrally sponsored scheme which was comes into existence with the aim to improving the coverage of sufficient and secure potable water to the bucolic occupant of the country. Ministry of drinking water and sanitation provide financial assistance and technical support through this program. This program was launched on April 1, 2009.this program is not limited only to Indian state but also it cover two union territory; Adman and Nicobar island and Pondicherry. This program came in the line with sustainable development goal (SDG 6) of the united nation with the timeline to accomplish comprehensive and anti-discriminatory access of sufficient and secure potable water to all by the year 2030.The Ministry provides assistance with the aim to achieve adequate and safe water for drinking, cooking and all day to day basic needs on the sustainable basis.

As we know drinking water is the subject of state list and center have only right to provide assistance regarding the same, using this program center dedicate their 2% of the fund to Japanese Encephalitis and Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (JE-AES) affected high priority district with bacteriological contamination, 10% of their total fund to North Eastern (NE) states and remaining 88% of their total fund to other non north eastern states and Union Territories (UT).

NRDWP has provided an special provision to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe to ensure their coverage with drinkable water supply. On this line 22% of the fund is dedicated to SC reign area and 10% of the fund is dedicated to ST reign area. (National Rual Drinking Water Programme,2019)

NRDWP comes into the existence with some norms which is as follows :-

- For human beings there is 40 liter per capita per day (lpcd) of safe drinking water.

- In the desert development programme area there is 30 lpcd additional for cattle.
- For every 250 persons there is one hand pump or stand post.
- The sources of water should exist within 1.6 km in the plain area and within 100 mtrs elevation in hilly areas.

### Current status of NRDWP

As per data provided by the ministry of drinking water and sanitation to the rajya sabha on 6 feb, 2017 only 26.9 million out of 167.8 million household in rural india have piped water under this NRDWP. Of 1.7 million rural habitation provided drinking water under the NRDWP, 1.3 million are fully covered as per the norms of the NRDWP and 3,30,086 habitation are partially covered means save water available not as per the norms of NRDWP which is 40 lpcp for a human beings and only 64,094 are water-quality affected habitation covered under the NRDWP. (National Rural Drinking Water Programme).

### Objective of the study

This study was conducted to review the scholarly article and reports to draw a conceptual structure about the scheme with the objective

- To know the basic fundamentals behind the program.
- To know the success rate of the program and
- To know about the barrier which is revolving around to achieving the ultimate goal of the program.

### Methodology of the study

A systematic approach was made in this article to capture and draw theoretical base about National Rural Drinking Water Program (NRDWP) on the basis of secondary sources. Data were collected from the periodicals, journal articles, governmental report (like as Comptroller And Auditor Journal of India's report) and non- governmental reports (like different privately funded research institutions report).

### Findings of the study

After doing the systematic study of secondary sources in can be conclude that NRDWP were unable to fulfill their ultimate goal due to poor planning with poor implementation of the scheme, lack of participation of implementing agency as well as bucolic occupant, and poor management of fund is also a big barrier to achieving it's objective or goal. for the success of any program and scheme it is required to set up some apex body, agencies, resources centers at the state as well as block level and lack of all these bodies is also another reason behind the underachievement of this program.

As we know every program come into existence with certain goals and objectives. NRDWP also came with the goal to provide sufficient and secure potable water to the bucolic occupant of the country. After going through different research and newspaper articles etc it was found that Out of hundred percent only 44 % of the bucolic occupant getting benefited by this program which shows its underachievement.

After going through the different type of reports it was found that there were some deviations exist, from the program guideline. As per the planning and execution strategies and guideline (which were decided by the implementing agencies) deviation were exist not only at

state and local level but also at center level. In the line with the depth study it was found that out of 29 states only 8 states were framed their water sufficiency and secure potable water program. On the other hand, 21 states were not able to framed their water sufficiency and secure potable water program due to certain types of inadequacies like poor planning, poor execution, and poor participation of communities as well as related stakeholders'.

The supreme audit institution of India (CAG) publish their report on this Program and found the clear indication of lack of fund management mechanism which is also act as the active indicator in the line of it's barrier to achieving their ultimate goal. Between year 2012 to 2017 total allocation of fund is Rs 89,956 crore was provided for the implementation of the program but of this only Rs 81,168 crore was expended.

It was found the availability of funds declined during 2013-14 to 2016-17 reason behind this allocation is reduction of central allocation of fund and state inability to increase their own financial responsibilities.

As per comptroller and auditor general of India. it was reported that delaying tendencies in releasing the fund by centre to its nodal agency in the state is also one active barrier to achieving their goal.

Some other active barriers which where work behind achieving it's goal is incomplete and non operational work, unplanned and unproductive expenditure on equipments of readily available drinking water and sanitization, non-functional and non-sustainability of structures and life long legal formalities and clearance mechanism.

### Limitation of the study

Limitation of this present work is that study have totally conceptual base and data were extracted totally using secondary sources such as governmental report, non profit research organization etc. which were not sufficient to draw any generalization. It may be we find some different result based on the primary sources which gives us as well as government to understand the success rate, barrier and concept of the NRDWP.

### Future Implication

As it is mentioned here that this research study is totally based on secondary sources and not upon primary sources means there were not any connection or any far relation with the primary sources which gives a future researcher to fill the gap of this research work.

### Recommendation of the study

As it is stated earlier that the research work is conducted on the basis of secondary sources. Data were collected from the periodicals, journal articles, governmental report (like as Comptroller and Auditor Journal of India's report) and non-governmental reports (like different privately funded research institutions report). On the basis of analyzing above report some recommendation were drawn as below: -

- It should have to be vary important to review the achievability and viability about of the planning and delivery mechanisms on the ground level by the implimenting agency of the programe and also should have to meke sure that the programe can be able to serve the intended purposes.
- It should have to make sure that the potable water saficiency and security plans and annual action plans

will be finalised with the help of not only stakeholder's participation but also with related communities participation.

- It should have to make sure that basis of allocation of resources would be dynamic.
- It should have to make sure that all the related stakeholders would place their focus on only effective and efficient works.
- It should have to make sure that contract management would ensure the fulfilment of contractual terms and work would be done by them on timely manner.
- It should have to make sure that if any discrepancies exist penalties would be placed and accountability would be enforced to the related parties.

### Conclusion of the study

After studying the different government reports and not for profit operating research institution which has were no link with government and which were free for their doing, researchers came at the stage to draw some conclusion of their research study. Here researchers concluded that we all have to be very clear that no any program, schemes and policies were come with wrong objective and norms. All have sufficient objective and norms, only problem is that all these programmes, policies and schemes didn't get any sufficient success due it's implementing agency as well as us. program, schemes and policies were comes into existence without proper planning and preparation.

As it is frame with considering all aspects of the public but the accountability regarding the same is found to be very less each and everyone thinks the programme is taken by government and the government is the only one who have to full fill all norms and objective. On the line of this type of thinking process we totally ignoring our accountability regarding the same.

It is important for all of us where were we act as the beneficiary of the scheme or were we act as the implementing agency. we all have to change our attitude. A attitude to throw our own responsibility on one another and show lack of accountability. We all have to work around our attitude we have to be aware regarding our surroundings and also spread awareness among one another. We have to be very careful about our own action as like implementing agency or as like beneficiary of the scheme.

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