



Draft: Only for discussion

# ACTION PLAN FOR WATER RESOURCES

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## ABSTRACT

The action plan for the state of Andhra Pradesh has been prepared in accordance with the recommended policy changes and programmes from the Three Year Action Plan prepared by NITI Aayog.



Vision Management Unit  
APSDPS, Planning Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh

## NITI AAYOG ACTION PLAN – WATER RESOURCES

### Introduction

India's vision for the water sector is to ensure water security for economic prosperity and environmental stability through sustainable management of available water resources with people's participation.

There is a mismatch between present availability and projected demands of water. The share of this demand consists of agriculture- 70%, households- 9% and industries- 7%. According to Census 2011, only 30.8% of the total rural and 70.6% of urban households are reported to having access to piped water supply. There is also an uneven distribution of water resources, flooding, droughts, deteriorating water quality, and excessive dependence on groundwater. As a result of all these reasons, it is a preemptive to scientifically manage available water resources.

In order to achieve the vision, some of the strategies suggested by NITI Aayog are:

- To provide irrigation to all farms (Har Khet ko Pani) with improved on farm water-use efficiency (Per Drop more crop)
- Encourage industries to utilize recycled/treated water and ensure zero discharge of untreated effluents
- To create additional water storage capacity to enhance utilization of surface water resources
- Ensure long-term sustainability of the limited ground water resources
- Improving Water Footprint
- Facilitate effective Water Governance to manage available water resources
- Establish National Water Informatics Center (NWIC) under the National Hydrology Project (NHP)
- Inter-Linking of Rivers

### ACTION POINTS FOR ANDHRA PRADESH:

The initiatives of Andhra Pradesh in the water resources sector in order to achieve Vision 2029 are already in accordance with the above mentioned strategies of NITI Aayog. Some further action points which can be adopted are:

#### 1. Har Khet ko Pani and improving on farm water-use efficiency (Per Drop more crop):

- Time bound completion of all prioritized irrigation projects in order to reap their benefits
- Close monitoring of on-going projects to remove any bottlenecks under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP).
- Continuing with Water Use Efficiency and Benchmarking Studies annually for important irrigation projects
- Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of existing water bodies.
- IEC campaign for farmers to increase awareness about adopting Micro-Irrigation System.

## **2. Encourage industries to utilize recycled/treated water and ensure zero discharge of untreated effluents:**

- Install smart water meters by 2021 for water intensive industrial units
- Promote tradable permits for the use of regular (non-recycled) water to achieve efficiency

## **3. Create additional water storage capacity to enhance utilization of surface water:**

- Completion of dams under construction
- Link all cascades with the canal network system and local river/streams to supplement assured water to all the Rain fed tanks.
- Encourage more desilting of existing dams under Neeru – Cheetu and reduce seepage loss through selective lining of canals

## **2. Ensure long-term sustainability of the limited ground water resources:**

- Building of more check dams to help in groundwater recharge
- Creation of groundwater sinks to store excess water during rainy season
- Feasibility study to be conducted for assessing groundwater banking potential

## **3. Water Footprint:**

- Develop benchmarks for water footprints in the irrigation sector for the major crops i.e. wheat and rice

## **4. Water Governance:**

- Adopt an Andhra Pradesh Water Policy with provisions for an independent regulator with powers to regulate water uses and pricing
- Enactment of legislation for protection of water bodies and prevention of encroachment of water bodies
- Enactment of River Basin Management Act and formation of River Basin Organizations (RBOs) for management of inter-state river basins by 2019
- Enactment of National Water Framework Act in accordance with the National Water Policy, 2012 by September 2017

## **5. National Hydrology Project (NHP):**

- Establish and upgrade the existing hydro-met network stations as per NHP
- Establish National Water Informatics Centre (NWIC) by 2017

## About the Vision Management Unit

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Government of Andhra Pradesh established a Vision Management Unit (VMU) under the Planning Department for strategic management of vision programmes and projects to coordinate actions among all concerned stakeholders from within the government and outside in terms of planning, implementation and monitoring. Apart from integrating various vision initiatives and interventions into the annual planning and budgeting processes of the state government, the VMU also monitors and publishes periodicals and thematic studies on the transformation areas identified in the vision to provide an integrated picture of vision achievements.

The unit is a vibrant team of young professionals from diverse backgrounds who work together on data, targets, performance indicators, global studies, best practices and global standards to prepare recommendations to achieve the state's Vision 2029.

## Our Office

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Sunrise Andhra Pradesh Vision 2029

Vision Management Unit, Andhra Pradesh State Development Planning Society,  
Planning Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh,  
517-522, 5th floor, Kalanjali Building, M.G. Road, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh – 520010

You can reach us at:

<http://apvision.ap.gov.in/vmu.html>  
[comm-expplg@ap.gov.in](mailto:comm-expplg@ap.gov.in)