

Topic: Water crisis in Pakistan: A shared responsibility of the government and the people.

Outline

I.

INTRODUCTION

Water is considered the lifeline of all living organism in this universe, without proper availability of water human-beings and other living-beings unable to survive in this planet. In fact, Pakistan has faced water scarcity, it should be solved by mutual participation both the government and the public.

2. RESPONSIBILITIES OF GOVERNMENT TO SOLVE WATER CRISIS IN PAKISTAN

A. Robust Implementation of Policies Both at National and International levels.

- i. Pakistan National Water Policy (2018)
- ii. United Nation Water Action Decade (19-28)

B. Infrastructure Development

- i. Diamer Basha Dam

C. PUBLIC Awareness Campaign

- i. Save water Campaign

D. Cross Border Cooperation
ie. Indus water treaty

E. Legal and Institutional Reform

3. PUBLIC LEVEL OF STRATEGIES TO OVERCOME WATER SHORTAGE IN THE COUNTRY

A. Water Conservation at Home
ie. Australia strict water saving habits

B. Responsible Agriculture practice
ie. Israel, farmer widely use drip irrigation

C. Avoid pollution
ie. Netherlands

D. Support water policy

F. Awareness and Education
ie. Singapore, etc.

4. CONCLUSION

"The war of 21st century will be fought over water, unless we change the way we manage it" - Ismail Serageldin, vice president of World Bank. Water is one of the important ingredients of life in this universe. Earth is the only planet which is survivable to human beings and other creatures of this universe, because, it has abundance of water. For example, there are several other planets, such as, Jupiter, Saturn and Mars. They are big landmass as compared to Earth but there are no water resource. So, they are considered a barren piece of land. Furthermore, water is a lifeline of plants, and other organism. However, population explosion, climate change and global warming has jeopardised the water capacity across the globe. In fact, Pakistan is a country which faces acute water shortage that plunged the country into menacing economic turmoil. So, it is necessary to both Government and public to introduce policies and implement

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these policies to overcome water scarcity in the country.

To begin with, robust implementation of policies both at national and international level. A resilient and efficient policy making of the government is core, the ultimate solution of water scarcity. For example, Pakistan National water policy 2018, one of the important initiative of the government to regulate water resources across the country. It provides, an avenue to both the farmers and general public, how to use water resources efficiently. Furthermore, at international level, United Nation Water Action Decade, is also an important strategy at international level. The main focus of this initiative, cross border sharing of information and experience, to alleviate people from water scarcity. Additionally, strong implementation of policies also conserve the underground water sources. However, policy making and strong implementation of policies both at national and international level ~~can~~ easily address water shortage in the country.

Additionally, Infrastructure development is also an important strategy to save water resource. According to World Bank, Pakistan receive an average ¹⁰⁰mm water 220mm between July to September, but lack of infrastructure this water run out into Indus Basin. Furthermore, lack of infrastructure development ~~enable~~ further waste the moderate melting of Himalian glaciers and ice caps. Additionally, dam establishment in the country is very difficult because, lack of political will, finance and economic instability. Diamer Basha Dam is one of the prolong infrastructure that further added fuel to the fire. The government unable to manage fund to accomplish this significant project. It ~~is~~ fulfills the needs of million of people. However, the government will introduce robust political mechanism that bring consensus between federation and union, to accomplishing the pending projects and new ones.

Furthermore, It is necessary to ~~for~~ the government to start a countrywide water campaign.

Most of the rural and urban population have no understanding about the conservation of water, because, lack of knowledge.

According to Indus River System Authority, 70% of water is waste across the country. This calculation shows that most of water is wasted during agriculture production and household use. Furthermore, 10%

of the population has unable to acquire clean drinking water.

However, 'Save Water Campaign' is return again across the country to safe water bodies.

Therefore, It is necessary to understand water shortage in the country. The government must alliance with other private ventures to safe water resources across the country.

Moreover, Cross border cooperation is also an important strategy to safe water resources. The

Indus Water Treaty (1960), between Pakistan and India is a flashpoint. It triggered both of the country toward war in three times. Furthermore, Indus water

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is a lifeline of Pakistan's moribund economy. It fulfills the needs of more than millions of people. Pakistan's agriculture sector heavily dependent on Indus water which contribute 23% of Pakistan's GDP and engaged 37% of labour force. The "war of 1948" was creates a lot of economic problems to the Pakistani masses. The agriculture sector completely destroyed because of water shortages. However, strong relationship with neighbouring countries have paved the way for economic stability and strong water reservations. Last but not the least, legal and institutional reforms further strengthen the conservation of water supply across the country. Most of the water leakage and irregularities arise due to lack of strong regulatory reforms. Furthermore, strong regulatory framework keeps strong eyes on water bodies across the country. For example, climate change programme and the National water policy 2018, further strengthen monitor to manage the scarce water resource in the country.

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However, Government level of strategies could not address the issue effectively, therefore, public participation is also important to mitigate water scarcity in the country. First, Water Conservation at home this is a grass-root level initiative that save the unproductive use of water. According to (IRSA) Sindh and Punjab are facing 50% of water shortages. The estimations present a grim picture of the country related water conservation. For example, Punjab and Sindh are considered the foodbasket of Pakistan. This shortage of water affected the economy badly. Further more, there are 10% shortage in the production of wheat and rice. These two product fulfill the domestic need and export earning of the country. However, at home conservation of water release the pressure on surface water resources and underground water resource.

Second, responsible agriculture practice save huge amount of water. According Bureau statistic of Pakistan, 90% of water is used by agriculture sector. Agriculture sector is a backbone

of Pakistan's economy, however, the traditional method of cultivation has severe impacts on water.

Furthermore, lack of advance agriculture methods and has jeopardised the water resources and diminish the fertility of land.

Israel is the country which cultivate 70% of its agriculture production through drip agriculture system. It has two benefits one, it save water and the second, it increases the production volume. Furthermore, fertilizer are also an important agriculture sector ingredient that completely poison the water bodies during irrigation.

Third, pollution contribute 90% of water contamination. Lack of proper sewage system in urban areas completely dismentle the ecological balance. The toxic waste of industries have severe impacts on agriculture sector and marine ecosystem. Furthermore, water pollution has multidimensional affects on both humans and other creatures. For example; it causes Malaria, diarrhea in humans and destroy crops yielding. Additionally, there was no any strict rules and regulation in public domain.

people who heartedly use water resources without any conservation. Furthermore, Netherlands is a role model country that strictly save all ~~the~~ its water border across the country. Therefore, public awareness regarding water pollution an important step to save water from contamination.

Fourth, it is the first and foremost responsibility of the public to support water policy without robust implementation of the government policies it is impossible to achieve water abundance country. Ideal citizens are those who obey the state policy in order to achieve prosperity and well-being. So, without strong partnership between the government and the public to address water scarcity is impossible. Therefore, the public needs to understand the water security in the country.

Fifth, grass root level of education is very important to save the humanity from future risk. The natural resources are depleting in a good pace, if the government and public does not prefer to grass root level of education the incoming generation bear the brunt.

Furthermore, it paces the new generation to adopt proactive strategies to overcome the depletion of natural resources, particularly, water.

Community based water management, provides an avenue to local people to share their experiences related to water reservation, agriculture production and the inordinate depletion of natural resources.

However, grassroots level of education and awareness are proactive strategies that overcome the future scarcity of water.

In a nut shell, Pakistan has faced acute water shortage, according to United Nation Pakistan has ranked among 23 more water scarce countries. These multidimensional

affects of water shortage could be address through strong government and public partnership

Furthermore, the inordinate melting of water resources across the country plunged the country into unrelenting economic turmoil. Additionally, the agriculture sector and domestic sector destroyed 90% of water.

Therefore, it is necessary for both the government and people to implement all national and international level of policies to overcome the water shortage in the country.