

NATIONAL WATER AWARDS

1. Preamble

Water is one of the vital components of life. The rapid pace of irrigation growth, urbanization & industrialization has put enormous stress on water resources. Cumulative impact of increase in use of this precious natural resource has led to water scarcity in many regions of the country. Nevertheless, the climate change has also resulted in change in hydrologic cycle in the country. Hence, it is necessary that this scarce resource is protected by effective and efficient management on sound scientific methodology for its sustainable development.

The Ground Water Augmentation Awards and National Water Awards were launched in the year 2007 with an objective to encourage all stakeholder including the Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Gram Panchayats, Urban Local Bodies, Water User Associations, Institutions, Corporate Sector, Individuals etc. for adopting innovative practices of ground water augmentation by rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge, promoting water use efficiency, recycling & re-use of water and creating awareness through people's participation in the targeted areas resulting into the sustainability of ground water resources development, adequate capacity building amongst the stakeholders etc.

Considering the fact that surface water & ground water are integral part of the water cycle, it was felt necessary to institute unified National Water Awards with the objectives of encouraging the stakeholders to adopt holistic approach towards water resources conservation and management in the country. In view of this, National Water Awards 2018 and National Water Awards 2019 were successfully organised by the Department and winners in different categories were felicitated with awards.

With the continued focus on recognizing work done by people in the water sector and with a greater zeal to motivate more and more people to work towards water conservation and water management, Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation is organizing National Water Awards 2020.

2. Details of Awards:

Sl. No.	Category of Award	Eligible Entity	Award	No. of Award
1.	Best State	State Government/ UT	Trophy with Citation	3 Awards
2.	Best District	District Administration/ DM/ DC	Trophy with Citation	2 Awards each in 5 zones (North, South, East, West, North-East)
3.	Best Village Panchayat	Village Panchayat	Cash Awards & Trophy with Citation	3 Awards each in 5 zones First award: Rs.2 lakh Second award: Rs.1.5 lakh Third award: Rs.1 lakh
4.	Best Urban Local Body	Urban Local Body	Cash Awards & Trophy with Citation	3 Awards: First award: Rs.2 lakh Second award: Rs.1.5 lakh Third award: Rs.1 lakh
5.	Best Media (Print & Electronic)	Newspaper/ Magazine	Cash Awards & Trophy with Citation	3 Awards: First award: Rs.2 lakh Second award: Rs.1.5 lakh Third award: Rs.1 lakh
6.	Best School	School	Cash Awards & Trophy with Citation	3 Awards: First award: Rs.2 lakh Second award: Rs.1.5 lakh Third award: Rs.1 lakh
7.	Best 'Institution/RWA/ Religious organization' for Campus usage	Institution/RWA/ Religious organization	Cash Awards & Trophy with Citation	3 Awards: First award: Rs.2 lakh Second award: Rs.1.5 lakh Third award: Rs.1 lakh
8.	Best Industry	Small/ Medium/ Large Scale Industry	Cash Awards & Trophy with Citation	3 Awards: First award: Rs.2 lakh Second award: Rs.1.5 lakh Third award: Rs.1 lakh
9.	Best NGO	Registered NGOs	Cash Awards & Trophy with Citation	3 Awards: First award: Rs.2 lakh Second award: Rs.1.5 lakh Third award: Rs.1 lakh
10.	Best Water User Association	Water User Association	Cash Awards & Trophy with Citation	3 Awards: First award: Rs.2 lakh Second award: Rs.1.5 lakh Third award: Rs.1 lakh

11.	Best Industry for CSR Activities	Large/ Medium/ Small Industry	Cash Awards & Trophy with Citation	3 Awards: First award: Rs.2 lakh Second award: Rs.1.5 lakh Third award: Rs.1 lakh
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The States/UTs under the 5 zones are as below:

Zone	States/ UTs
Northern Zone	Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Chandigarh, Ladakh
Eastern Zone	Bihar, West Bengal, Odisha, Jharkhand, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Chhattisgarh
Southern Zone	Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Goa, Puducherry, Lakshadweep Islands
Western Zone	Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Dadra and Nagar Haveli & Daman and Diu, Madhya Pradesh
North Eastern Zone	Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura, Sikkim

3. Criteria for various Categories of National Water Awards 2020

1. Best State:

Criteria	Marks
1. Preparation or Revision of State Water Policy document.	5
2. Follow-up action in implementation of water policy document - Concrete steps and conspicuous impact.	5
3. Creation of Water Regulatory Authority and Exhaustive note on achievements of water resources regulatory authority.	10
4. Minor Water Conservation Interventions – Furnish Techno – Physical Details	10
5. Medium & Major Irrigation ventures – Furnish Project-wise Technical Note. (Performance evaluation and benchmarking will be taken into account for marking)	5
6. Ground Water Aquifer Mapping and subsequent Recharge plans prepared based on such mapping with high resolution hydro-geological studies.	5
7. Irrigated area transformed from conventional to micro irrigation (Irrigated area of existing projects and that of individual beneficiaries both, exclusively) and Utilization of water thus saved owing to this switch over.	5
8. Number of active Water User Association and support provided.	5
9. New projects with micro irrigation systems.	5
10. Rehabilitation/Renovation/Restoration of old and existing projects - Enhancement in project efficiency. (Furnish comparison of pre and post authentic data viz:- enhancement in storage, regaining of lost irrigation potential i.e. ICA, restoration of projected irrigation intensity, improvement in feeding tail command, reduction in losses & prodigality etc.)	10
11. Scientific treatment and restoration of degraded drainage areas targeting conduciveness in natural recharge phenomenon, reviving liveliness of streams and micro conservation etc. (Furnish narrative note elaborating strategy & methodology adhered upon, configuration of interventions, implementation, and provisions to ensure sustainment of interventions etc. duly accompanied with data of achievements.)	10
12. Treatment and reuse of domestic, commercial sewage and Industrial effluent.	10
13. Roof top rain water harvesting, including traditional structures in prevalence in rural India.	5
14. Management and utilization of data/IT technology in water auditing, water conservation & irrigation management including ground water monitoring & assessment. A narrative note on application of water audit results and	10

670755/2020/IEC Section

conspicuous impact of technological advancement & IT applications etc. in overall perspective. (Note: This includes urban water management, data management (water) and NHP related activities/progress)	
Total Marks	100

2. Best District:

Criteria	Marks
1. Efforts made for Rejuvenation of Rivers, restoration of river banks and preservation of flood plains.	10
2. Creation of Artificial Recharge Structures and maintenance, upkeep and maintenance of existing recharge system.	10
3. Water bodies mapped, entered in revenue records and revived in the District.	10
4. Micro water storage structures created with storage capacity (MST/MIT like structures)	5
5. Use of Micro Irrigation and area added during the last year.	10
6. Roof top rain water harvesting and traditional rain water harvesting structures in numbers and storage capacity along with functional status and water use details.	10
7. Measures adopted for protecting recharge areas of springs and maintenance of the water quality of the springs/ ground water resources.	5
8. Pollution abatement steps, including recycle and reuse of waste water. Efforts made to be duly substantiated with data.	10
9. Removal of encroachments and illegal infringements in catchment vis-a-vis waterways (like sand mining, etc). Furnish details and positive impacts thereof.	10
10. Number of trees planted, and maintenance mechanism for survival for trees.	5
11. Mass sensitization and capacity building in water conservation and management, including water budgeting. Furnish details of activities and impact thereof.	5
12. Leadership and innovation exhibited by the District Administration to involve community in the activities mentioned 1-11 above.	10
Total Marks	100

3. Best Village Panchayat:

Criteria	Marks
1. Number of water bodies revived with community participation.	20

2. Innovative practices for enhancing ground water. Furnish data & documents to substantiate.	10
3. Number of new water conservation structures and their storage capacity.	10
4. Community mobilization for adopting of water efficient cropping pattern, and efficient water management practices, and results thereof.	20
5. Water Shed development activities (contour bunding/trenching), and tree plantation.	10
6. Number of new ponds created and capacity in Cum., and mechanism for sustainment of creations.	20
7. Mass sensitization and capacity building in water conservation and management, including water budgeting. Furnish details of activities and impact thereof.	10
Total Marks	100

4. Best Urban Local Body (ULB):

Criteria	Marks
1. Performance of the ULB in Water Supply & Distribution against the prescribed Service Level Benchmarks (SLBs) viz. Coverage & extent of metering of water connections, and continuity of water supply, Per capita supply of water, Extent of Non-revenue Water (NRW) (including leakages/losses), Quality of water supplied (meeting the BIS-10500 drinking water quality norms), Cost recovery in water supply services; Efficiency in collection of water supply charges, Water audits conducted (frequency of audits & performance report) & efficiency in redressal of customer complaints, O&M and Use of IT based intervention for performance enhancement in water supply & distribution.	40
2. Performance of the ULB in Sewerage Management against the prescribed Service Level Benchmarks (SLBs) viz. Coverage of toilets & sewage network as well as collection efficiency of the sewage network, Adequacy of sewage treatment capacity and quality of sewage treatment (against norms), Extent of reuse and recycling of sewage, Efficiency in collection of sewage charges, Extent of cost recovery in sewage management and redressal of customer complaints.	30
3. Water conservation interventions undertaken viz. Roof top Rain Water Harvesting structures and storage capacity created, (Number of structures erected/created and practical state of functioning and associated impacts), Revival of traditional water bodies/ponds/lakes/springs/others, (Practical achievements in terms of number of interventions/area revived/ capacity created/communities benefitted/sustainability/other associated benefits), Innovative interventions for ground water recharge/replenishment undertaken, (Practical achievements in terms of no. of	20

interventions/quantum of water recharged/increase in GW level/other associated benefits).	
4. Leadership exhibited by the ULB Administration to involve community in all aspects of improving water conservation and mass sensitization & public awareness programs and capacity building of the staff. (Furnish details of activities and impact thereof)	10
Total Marks	100

5. Best Media (Print and Electronic):

Criteria	Marks
1. Number of meaningful articles published or programmed aired on water conservation and management.	25
2. Content related to water issues.	25
3. Circulation of the newspaper & magazine/ reach of electronic media.	25
4. Positive impact & consequences of reporting.	25
Total Marks	100

6. Best School:

Criteria	Marks
1. Presence of a water action plan with well-defined and achievable targets.	15
2. Setting up a water collection system (roof-top and pits etc.) to gather rain water for watering plants and other non-potable uses.	15
3. Number of trees planted in the school premises and outside.	15
4. Install low-flow water saving devices in washrooms and campus.	10
5. Number of Painting, Essay and Debate competitions organized to promote water conservation and management activities.	25
6. Number of innovative works and activities done (not covered in other criteria) to promote water conservation and management activities.	10
7. Voluntary work done by the school students outside their school for water conservation and management activities.	10
Total Marks	100

7. Best 'Institution/RWA/Religious Organization' for Campus usage:

Criteria	Marks
1. Number of Roof top rain water harvesting structures created in numbers and storage capacity and functional status and how water was used. Furnish complete details.	15
2. Quantity of water saved by implementing water conservation and management activities (other than roof-top RWHS). Furnish details.	15

670755/2020/IEC Section

3. Number of awareness activities for water conservation and management and its conspicuous impact.	15
4. Efforts made for cleaning water bodies/storages. Furnish details.	15
5. Number of trees planted and survived and mechanism for ward, watering & upkeep of plants.	15
6. Achievements in the context of liquid sewage collection, transmission, treatment, recycle and reuse duly substantiated with data.	15
7. Any other innovative/unique work done on water conservation and management.	10
Total Marks	100

8. Best Industry:

Criteria	Marks
1. Corporate commitment to water efficiency - Designate a water efficiency coordinator, Develop a mission statement and a plan, Educate and involve employees in water efficiency efforts, awards given in your company for identifying and innovative solutions to reduce water consumption.	15
2. Water Audit and setting targets for future.	15
3. Installation of high-efficiency plumbing fixtures, appliances and other equipment yielding substantial savings on water.	15
4. Installing and maintaining ETP (effluent treatment plant) and STP (sewage treatment plant) in industry area to treat waste water and its reuse. (Achieving the zero liquid discharge mandates).	15
5. Installation of water treatment (other than ETP/STP) mechanisms like Reverse Osmosis and other relevant treatment mechanisms.	15
6. Efforts in saving of non-processed water.	15
7. Narrate any other implemented ways of saving water in your industry/ innovations.	10
Total Marks	100

9. Best NGO:

Criteria	Marks
1. Details of work done in the areas of water conservation and management. Furnish exhaustive note to substantiate claim/version along with resources mobilizing details.	20
2. Innovative/Unique technologies adopted/implemented. Research and Development efforts made. Furnish complete details on techno-economic viability and adoption feasibility etc. complete.	20
3. Water bodies revived with data of additional storage created and its use with details of beneficiaries.	10

4. Micro water storage structures created with storage capacity with water use strategy.	10
5. Roof top rain water harvesting and traditional rain water harvesting structures in numbers and storage capacity in Cum.	10
6. Recorded benefits of water harvested from Roof top duly substantiated with requisite data.	10
7. Awareness campaigns done resulting in mass participation. Details thereof	10
8. Any Capacity building done and the conspicuous impacts thereof.	10
Total Marks	100

10. Best Water User Association:

Criteria	Marks
1. Number of members. Furnish tree chart and details of configuration.	10
2. Area under Agriculture, CCA, ICA, Irrigation intensity.	10
3. Water supplied to meter and levy collected.	10
4. Upkeep and Maintenance of infrastructure.	10
5. Water use efficiency achieved.	10
6. Uniformity and parity of distribution in the regime of WUA.	10
7. Adoption of Micro Irrigation.	15
8. Cognizance to soil health card.	10
9. Adherence to recommended/stipulated cropping pattern according to water availability.	10
10. Exercising checks on prodigality coupled with recycle and reuse of waste water.	5
Total Marks	100

11. Best Industry for CSR Activities:

Criteria	Marks
1. CSR amount spent in the last one year on water conservation and management, give percentage share of TOTAL CSR provision. Furnish details of financial & other resources contribution in monetary terms to other institutions and amount spent by industry itself on water conservation interventions.	30
2. Types and details of activities implemented in water conservation and management under CSR in the last one year.	20
3. Number of people benefitted with the activities implemented under CSR in the last one year.	20
4. Any innovative technology promoted under CSR in the last one year.	10
5. Any capacity building effort for community done under CSR in the last one year.	10

670755/2020/IEC Section

6. Any other impacts/outcomes of the activities taken up under CSR in the last one year.	10
Total Marks	100

4. Procedure for Forwarding the Application for Awards -

Category wise procedure for submission and forwarding eligible applications for the awards will be as follows:

➤ **For Best State:**

The Water Resources/ Irrigation/ Agriculture department of respective State/ UT Government will forward the application duly vetted by Secretary of respective department. A detailed note shall be enclosed with the application. The detailed note shall encompass the work done in the water resources conservation & management sector along with details on the points mentioned under evaluation criteria for Best State. It shall also contain a PowerPoint presentation of around 6 slides covering the details of work carried out. This presentation shall be forwarded in soft copy (online format) only alongwith the application.

➤ **For Best District/ Best Village Panchayat/ Best Urban Local Body:**

The District Administration/ Village Panchayat/ Urban local body will forward the applications duly vetted by District Collector/ District Magistrate/head of body. A detailed note shall be enclosed with the application. The detailed note shall encompass the work done in the water resources conservation & management sector along with details on the points mentioned under evaluation criteria for the category. It shall also contain a PowerPoint presentation of approximately 6 slides covering details of work done. This presentation shall be forwarded in soft copy (online format) only along with the application.

➤ **For Best Media (Print & Electronic):**

The application to be forwarded shall include the details of the parameters for the category. It shall also contain a PowerPoint presentation of approximately 6 slides covering details of work done. This presentation shall be forwarded in soft copy (online format) only along with the application.

➤ **For Best School:**

The application to be forwarded shall include the details of the parameters for the category and shall be vetted by the principal of the school. It shall also contain a PowerPoint presentation of approximately 6 slides covering detail of work done. This presentation shall be forwarded in soft copy (online format) only along with the application.

➤ **For Best 'Institution/RWA/Religious organization' for Campus usage:**

The application to be forwarded shall include the details of the parameters for the category and shall be vetted by the head of the institution/ Religious organization/ Resident Welfare Association (RWA). It is desirable that a PowerPoint presentation of approximately 6 slides covering the details of work done is also submitted. This presentation shall be forwarded in soft copy (online format) only alongwith the application.

➤ **For Best Industry/ Best Industry for CSR Activities :**

The application to be forwarded shall include the details of the parameters for the category and shall be vetted by the head of the Industry. It shall also contain a PowerPoint presentation of approximately 6 slides covering details of work done. This presentation shall be forwarded in soft copy (online format) only alongwith the application.

➤ **Best NGO:**

The application to be forwarded shall include the details of the parameters for the category and shall be vetted by the Head of the organization. It shall also contain a PowerPoint presentation of approximately 6 slides covering details of work done. This presentation shall be forwarded in soft copy (online format) only along with the application.

➤ **Best Water User Association:**

The application to be forwarded shall include the details of the parameters for the category and shall be vetted by the Head of the Association. It shall also contain a PowerPoint presentation of approximately 6 slides covering details of work done. This presentation shall be forwarded in soft copy (online format) only along with the application.

** The parameters (criteria) for all categories have been mentioned in the guidelines.

5. Forwarding the application:

Irrespective of the category, all the applications may be sent either through MyGov platform at <https://mygov.in> or email to Central Ground Water Board at the e-mail address: nationalwaterawards@gmail.com. Only the applications which are submitted online and are complete in all respects will be considered by Department. The last date for submitting the entries is 10th February, 2021.

(The Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation reserves all rights to cancel, amend all or any part of this contest and/ or terms and conditions/ technical parameters/ evaluation criteria/ award money etc. without any notice.)

The end

Brief Description

Water is one of the vital components of life. The rapid pace of irrigation growth, urbanization & industrialization has put enormous stress on water resources. Cumulative impact of increase in use of this precious natural resource has led to water scarcity in many regions of the country. Moreover, the climate change has resulted in change in hydrologic cycle in the country. Hence, it is necessary that this scarce resource is protected by effective and efficient management on sound scientific methodology for its sustainable development.

The Ground Water Augmentation Awards and National Water Award were launched in the year 2007 with an objective to encourage all stakeholder including the Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Gram Panchayats, Urban Local Bodies, Water User Associations, Institutions, Corporate Sector, Individuals etc. for adopting innovative practices of ground water augmentation by rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge, promoting water use efficiency, recycling & re-use of water and creating awareness through people's participation in the targeted areas resulting into the sustainability of ground water resources development, adequate capacity building amongst the stakeholders etc.

Considering the fact that surface water & Ground water are integral part of the water cycle, it was felt necessary to institute unified National Water Awards with the objectives of encouraging the stakeholders to adopt holistic approach towards water resources management in the country. Thus, National Water Awards 2018 was organised in 2018-19 and winners were selected and felicitated with awards/citations on 25th February, 2019 at New Delhi. In the next year 2019-20, NWA 2019 was organised successfully and winners were felicitated through a virtual platform with awards/citations on 11th and 12th November, 2020. The event was inaugurated by Hon'ble Vice President of India.

With continued focus on creating mass awareness and motivating more number of people for working towards water conservation/management, **3rd National Water Awards 2020** is now being launched by the Department of Water Resources, RD & GR on 10th December, 2020 to recognise the efforts of people/organisations working in this field throughout the country across various categories to cover maximum area possible.