The Hindu- 26 June-2024

Jal Shakti Ministry conceives 'new project' to fix water deficit in Jal Jeevan Mission

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Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil said at a public event on Monday that the government was conceiving a "new project" to ensure that rural households which were provided taps under the ambitious Jal Jeevan Mission but had not yet been able to get water, would soon be provided potable water.

"In some places, we have not been able to fully accomplish the Prime Minister's target," Mr. Patil said at a workshop organised for officers in the Ministry. "Some people say in jest that we have taps but no water. We are in the process of setting up a new project, where in a time-bound manner, we shall ensure that households with taps and no water, and those without taps are all covered," he added.


C.R. Patil

The ₹3.6-lakh-crore Jal Jeevan Mission was implemented after Prime Minister Narendra Modi promised from the ramparts of the Red Fort in 2019 to provide potable tap water to every rural household in India.

As of June 25, the scheme had encompassed 77% of its target household, officials from the Ministry said at an event on Monday.

Overall, 15 crore households out of a targeted 19 crore have been provided with tap water connections. However, as *The Hindu* has earlier pointed out, there is a difference between a household getting a tap connection and the daily quota of 55 litres per person day of water being provided.

To measure households that have been provided water connections, the water supply departments of the States or Union Territories aggregate the numbers provided by districts of the households, anganwadi or schools in their respective administrative units who have been provided tap water connections.

International News – 26th June-2024

Sprinkler Irrigation Systems Market Size Set to Surge, Reaching Nearly USD 13.73 Billion by 2032

1. Shift towards Efficient Water Management Practices

As global water resources face increasing pressure from population growth and climate change, there is a growing emphasis on adopting water-efficient irrigation technologies. Sprinkler irrigation systems enable farmers to optimize water use by delivering precise amounts of water directly to crops, minimizing water wastage and maximizing irrigation efficiency. This is particularly critical in regions prone to water scarcity and drought conditions.

2. Technological Advancements and System Innovations

The sprinkler irrigation systems market is characterized by continuous technological advancements and innovations aimed at improving system performance and user convenience. Key innovations include automated control systems, remote monitoring capabilities, precision irrigation techniques, and integration with weather forecasting tools. These advancements enable farmers to make data-driven decisions, optimize irrigation schedules, and enhance overall farm management practices.

3. Diverse Applications Across Agriculture

Sprinkler irrigation systems find application across a wide range of crops and farming practices, including field crops, orchards, vineyards, nurseries, and specialty crops. System types include Lateral Move Irrigation Systems, Center Pivot Irrigation Systems, Solid Set Sprinkler Systems, and others, each catering to specific crop and field configurations. These systems can be stationary or towable, offering flexibility in deployment based on farm size, terrain, and irrigation requirements.

Regionally, the market is analyzed across key regions including North America, Europe, Asia Pacific, Latin America, and Middle East & Africa. North America and Europe are prominent markets for sprinkler irrigation systems, driven by advanced agricultural practices, government subsidies for water-efficient technologies, and favorable regulatory frameworks. The Asia Pacific region is expected to witness significant growth, supported by increasing adoption of modern farming techniques, rising awareness about water conservation, and expanding agricultural activities.

INNOVATION

This smart sprinkler taps AI to use half as much water on your lawn

1. **Water Waste Issue**: Traditional sprinklers are inefficient, leading to water wastage, with landscape irrigation using about 9 billion gallons of water daily in the U.S. About half of this is wasted.

2. **Innovative Solution**: Irrigreen offers a digital, robotic sprinkler system that adjusts water distribution based on landscape contours. It uses artificial intelligence to tailor watering patterns based on soil type, grass type (cool or warm weather), sunlight/shade, and weather forecasts.

3. **Water Conservation**: The system is designed to save water, reportedly cutting water usage by about half compared to traditional systems. It incorporates weather data to avoid watering during rainy periods.

4. **Technology and Control**: Controlled via an app, the system allows precise control over watering patterns, ensuring each area of the lawn receives appropriate irrigation without wastage.

5. **Market Impact and Cost**: The system costs between $2,000 and $5,000 depending on property size and needs, comparable to other in-ground systems. It has gained investor interest due to its potential in the market with approximately 80 million lawns in the U.S.

6. **Environmental Impact**: Irrigreen claims to have saved about 200 million gallons of water through installations. They provide tools on their website for consumers to assess potential water waste using satellite imagery.

Overall, Irrigreen's technology aims to address inefficiencies in traditional irrigation methods, offering a more sustainable and precise solution for lawn watering.