



Monthly Newsletter: Issue 7 - April, 2013

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Message from Chairperson

I am happy to share with you the seventh issue of FICCI Water Mission E-Newsletter. This monthly newsletter gives you an update on the Mission's work and developments in the water sector.



The first meeting of the Water Mission Steering Committee was organised on April 01. We had a detailed discussion on the work plan for the year 2013. The Secretariat will finalise the plan and share it with the Committee this month.

Dr. S.K. Sarkar, Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, interacted with the members during the Steering Committee Meeting. He shared the Ministry's plan of implementing Goal IV of the National Water Mission which calls for improving water efficiency by 20% across all sectors in the next five years. He urged Indian industry to improve their current water consumption patterns and have targets for reduction clearly defined.

The Gujarat Assembly passed the Gujarat Irrigation and Drainage Bill last month. Provisions of the bill require all the 5.5 million farmers in the state to declare their source of irrigation water. We have included a note on the Salient Features of the Bill in this issue.

The newsletter contains an update of major news items relating to water sector, important sectoral reports. We hope that you find the newsletter useful. The secretariat looks forward to your comments and suggestions.

Atul Singh

Chairperson, FICCI Water Mission

President & CEO, Coca-Cola India

Water Mission Activities

Water Mission Committee Meeting



The first meeting of the Water Mission Steering Committee was organised on April 01, 2013. Mr. Atul Singh, Chairperson welcomed the members and shared the priority areas for the Mission. The Secretariat shared the work plan and schedule of the activities for this year. The revised plan based on the feedback received will be shared with the Chairperson and members this month.

Dr. S.K. Sarkar, Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, interacted with the members during the Steering Committee Meeting. He shared the Ministry's plan of implementing Goal IV of the National Water Mission which calls for improving water efficiency by 20% across all sectors in the next five years. He urged Indian industry to improve their current water consumption patterns and have targets for reduction clearly defined.

Water Treatment Opportunities in India

FICCI Water Mission and Embassy of Israel organised an Interactive Business Meeting with the visiting delegation led by Israeli Export & International Cooperation Institute and Indian companies working in water treatment sphere on March 11, 2013.

A brief seminar on the potential of the urban and industrial wastewater treatment sector in India was also organised.



The meeting saw extensive B2B meetings between Indian and Israeli companies to explore partnerships for research, development and trade in areas of water supply provisioning, urban and industrial wastewater treatment.

Daily News Wrap

On the occasion of World Water Day, Water Mission Secretariat started an initiative to compile daily wrap up of news items relating to water appearing in leading national dailies. This will be shared with our members to inform them of the happenings in the sector.

Article – Enswico's innovative waterless urinals

Dubravko Sodomka; Enswico AG, Switzerland

Enswico has developed a unique siphon technology to operate urinals without water. Enswico's innovative development is based on Bernoulli's principle, supported by biotechnology, and sets new standards in resource efficiency.

The Key-System[®] of Enswico

The patented Key-System of Enswico was developed for use in waterless urinals. It is a protected capsule system, based on a patented membrane technology mainly used for waterless urinals. With an average of three Key-Valves[®] per year and urinal, the Key-System saves annually between 80,000 and 120,000 litres of water.

The Key-Valve works using Bernoulli's principle. Aided by adhesion of the moistened Key-Membrane[®], the Key-Valve remains permanently airtight. Without the use of water or other sealing liquids, it seals the drain opening to prevent the emission of odours from the drain. With the Key-Valve applied, no siphon is required in the drain line.

The Key-Valve automatically balances negative pressures in the drain line as the Key-Membrane allows air to flow into the drain. When the line is under pressure, the Key-Membrane remains tightly closed.

The Key-Valve is a consumable part. The Key-Ring[®] is the optical indicator visualizing the life cycle of the Key-Valve. As soon as the green material in the Key-Ring is fully dissolved, the Key-Valve






shall be replaced. Using the Service-Key, the Key-Valve can be quickly, easily and independently replaced without any problem.

Not only usage, but also drainpipe gases lead to ageing and reduced elasticity of the Key-Membrane. For proper operation, it must be replaced in accordance with the rate of usage; therefore it is recommended to change the Key-Valve after about 7,500 usages. For the daily cleaning procedure, instead of harsh cleaning detergents, a pH-neutral surface cleaner should be used. The Key-Valve can be stored in its original package at room temperature for one year.

About Enswico: Enswico is a worldwide active Swiss company committed to develop Cleantech products operating entirely without water. Enwico applies its know-how and innovation power responsibly to develop ecologically sustainable solutions. In addition to the most advanced Swiss made Cleantech products, Enwico offers comprehensive consulting and supportive services worldwide.

Bulletin Board

-  **Gujarat passes groundwater bill** - The legislation makes it mandatory for farmers to get license for extracting water. In 1973, Gujarat became the first state to introduce legislation that restricted farmers from extracting groundwater. For a water-stressed state the Groundwater Conservation Bill was godsend, said water experts. But the then chief minister, Chimanbhai Patel, refused to sign the bill fearing its impact on the state's 0.3 million farmers — <http://www.downtoearth.org.in/content/gujarat-passes-groundwater-bill>
-  **Marathwada's Waterman** - A 70 year old man from the arid Marathwada region has accomplished a feat the state government could not imagine - provide water to 900 people in his village Shrungarwadi. At a time when the rest of Marathwada is facing severe water crisis leading to exodus from villages, Shrungarwadi residents are getting potable water at their doorstep, free of cost. This miracle has been made possible because of the extraordinary zeal of a humble villager — <http://www.thefreelibrary.com/Marathwada's+waterman.-a0322806947>
-  **Arsenic contamination spreads wider in Assam** - Eight years ago, when an opposition member in the Assam assembly wanted to know how many districts had reported arsenic contamination in groundwater, public health minister Dinesh Prasad Goala's reply was five.

When the same question was raised again recently, present minister Gautam Roy's reply showed how far the contamination has progressed. "Nineteen of the state's 27 districts have reported arsenic contamination of groundwater," said Roy, adding a number of government water supply schemes had to be abandoned in view of this — <http://www.indianexpress.com/news/arsenic-contamination-spreads-wider-in-assam/1089515/>

💧 **Rs 6,500 crore and 19 years later, Yamuna dirty as ever** - About 19 years ago, Supreme Court first scrutinized pollution in the Yamuna. Innumerable orders later, Yamuna is dirtier than ever with a mind-numbing Rs 6,500 crore spent to clean the river and the latest plan of interceptor sewers is going nowhere — http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2013-03-11/delhi/37622895_1_unauthorized-colonies-stps-sewage-generation


💧 **'Heavy metals in Delhi's drinking water** - Delhi's drinking water is contaminated with tonnes of industrial waste. Industries located upstream of the Yamuna have been found to be discharging untreated waste into the river, leading to the presence of heavy metals in water that is picked up at Wazirabad to meet the city's drinking water needs — http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2013-03-11/delhi/37622465_1_treatment-plants-heavy-metals-etps

💧 **Drought-hit Bangalore dreading a dry summer** - With the state suffering one of the worst droughts in recent years, with over 140 of the 170 odd taluks being declared "drought-hit", the availability of drinking water, particularly to the IT city, has become a cause of concern. Bangalore, which draws water largely from the Cauvery and Arkavathy rivers, is set to face a serious crisis come summer with the government giving off alarming signals considering that parts of the city are already going without water. This could affect several 100 MNCs and domestic companies located in the city, as well as which boasts of a population exceeding 8.5 million — http://www.thestatesman.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=446639&catid=36

💧 **Delhi's great water fall: Capital fears riots and water shortages as groundwater level hits dangerous low** - Delhi's groundwater, its major resource in times of crisis, is being rapidly depleted. And things are only getting worse. In 1983, fresh groundwater was available at a

depth of 10m or 33ft. By 2011 it had fallen to 40m or about 132ft, with the period between 2002 and 2011 registering the most precipitous drop of 8.75m or nearly 29ft —

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/indiahome/indianews/article-2288607/Delhis-great-water-fall-Capital-fears-riots-water-shortages-groundwater-level-hits-dangerous-low.html>

 **80% of sewage water enters Indias Rivers untreated** - Nearly 80% of the sewage generated in India flows untreated into its rivers, lakes and ponds, turning the water sources too polluted to use. The end result - groundwater in almost the entire country has nitrate levels higher than the prescribed levels a result of sewage leaching into India's groundwater aquifers —

<http://mobilepaper.timesofindia.com/mobile.aspx?article=yes&pageid=8§id=edid=&edlab=TOIKRKO&mydateHid=06-03-2013&pubname=Times+of+India+-+Kochi&edname=&articleid=Ar00802&publabel=TOI>

Salient Features: Gujarat Irrigation and Drainage Bill, 2013

The Gujarat government passed The Gujarat Irrigation and Drainage Bill, 2013 on February 27 2013. The bill, if enacted and brought into force, seeks to repeal and replace the Gujarat Irrigation Act, 1879. The bill proposes the appointment of canal officers with powers to oversee the implementation of the proposed bill. This would include functions to monitor irrigation schemes, water distribution, inspect and regulate water-supply, repair and prevent accidents, maintenance of irrigation channels, set up and maintain water-gauges and conduct inquiry and examination wherever there is breach of the proposed provisions of the bill.

Construction and maintenance of canal systems

Under the bill, the state government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, declare that water of any river or stream flowing in a natural channel, or of any lake or any other natural collection of still water shall be applied or used, whenever it appears expedient or necessary to the government.

Canal crossings

The crossing canals shall be provided at places where the government thinks necessary, for the reasonable convenience of the inhabitants. Suitable bridges, culverts or other works shall be constructed to prevent the drainage and obstruction to drainage.

Removal of obstructions to drainage

The state government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, prohibit formation of obstructions of any river, stream or natural drainage-course, within certain limits when it appears to the state government that the obstruction of the rivers etc. can cause injury to the public health.

Construction and maintenance of field channels

The state government may construct the field channel in the public interest at the cost of the government where field channels does not exist in any service area in which lands are capable of being irrigated from a canal.

Supply of water

Every person desiring to have a supply of water from a canal shall submit a written application to the canal officer along with a fee as may be prescribed by the state government and on receipt of an application the canal officer may grant permission for water supply with conditions and restrictions. The canal water supplied for the irrigation of one or more crops shall be valid only for such crop or crops till maturity of the crop or crops.

Offences and penalties

Whoever voluntarily and without proper authority causes damage to canals etc. the bill proposes penal action with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months or with fine which may extend to five thousand rupees or with both.

Special provisions regulating construction and maintenance of tubewells, artesian wells and borewells

The bill proposes that if a farmer, having his own agriculture land, wants to construct a tubewell or borewell or an artesian well, exceeding the depth as prescribed by the government for extracting ground water, he shall have to apply for a licence from the canal officer of his area. Only upon grant of licence from the canal officer, he can construct the tubewell/ borewell/ artesian well.

Where any tubewell, artesian well or borewell is in existence in an agricultural land at the commencement of this Act and the depth of such well is in excess of depth as prescribed, then the holder of the agricultural land have to furnish information of well to the canal officer within three months of such commencement. The canal officer, if satisfied that the well was in existence at such commencement, grant a certificate to the holder of land saying the said well was in existence at such commencement.

Cancellation of licence

If the holder of a licence has, without reasonable cause, failed to comply with the terms and conditions subject to which the licence has been granted or any licence granted by fraud or misrepresentation, the canal officer may after giving the holder of the licence an opportunity of showing cause, by order, cancel the licence.

Offences and penalties

The bill proposes penal action against errant farmers with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months or with fine which may extent to ten thousand rupees or with both.

The main object of the bill is to increase the performance efficiency of irrigation schemes in the State with a view to bringing about equitable distribution of water for irrigation with the help of farmers and maximizing the benefits from irrigation through canals in terms of increased agricultural production without additional cost.

It is proposed to achieve the aforesaid objectives by providing for realization of optimum use of water for irrigation; supplying it on the basis of volume and charging for the same on volumetric basis and by participation of farmers in the water management by requiring them to form associations for obtaining water for irrigation on volumetric basis.

Comments/ queries can be address to –

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