

## Theme 6

### **Maximizing Water Efficiency: Making Every Drop Count in Delhi**

Maximizing water efficiency in Delhi is critical to address the growing water scarcity faced by its burgeoning population. Key solutions include promoting rainwater harvesting at both residential and commercial levels, rejuvenating existing water bodies, and ensuring the efficient treatment and reuse of wastewater. Modernizing Delhi's water distribution system to minimize leakage and theft can significantly conserve resources, while implementing smart water meters can encourage responsible consumption. Public awareness campaigns, combined with incentives for adopting water-efficient technologies like low-flow fixtures, can further drive conservation efforts. Policies to regulate groundwater extraction and encourage the use of alternative water sources, such as treated greywater, are essential for long-term sustainability. By integrating these strategies, Delhi can move towards making every drop count and ensuring water security for future generations.

### **Possible Challenges**

**Infrastructure Deficiencies:** Aging pipelines and water distribution networks result in significant water loss, requiring substantial investment for modernization.

**Behavioural Resistance:** Changing public habits and encouraging the adoption of water-saving technologies may take time and persistent effort.

**Funding Constraints:** Limited financial resources could hinder the implementation of large-scale water management projects like wastewater treatment plants and rainwater harvesting systems.

**Enforcement Issues:** Monitoring and regulating groundwater extraction and illegal connections can be challenging in densely populated areas.

**Urbanization Pressure:** Rapid urbanization leads to increased demand for water while reducing natural recharge areas due to paved surfaces.

**Coordination Challenges:** Effective collaboration between government agencies, private sector players, and local communities is necessary but often difficult to achieve.

**Equitable Access:** Ensuring water efficiency measures benefit all socio-economic groups and do not exacerbate existing disparities in water access.

**Climate Change:** Unpredictable rainfall patterns and extreme weather events make water resource planning more complex

### **Concerned Delhi Govt. departments for Theme 6**

#### **Delhi Jal Board (DJB):**

The **Delhi Jal Board (DJB)** is the primary agency responsible for the supply and management of water in Delhi. DJB focuses on:

**Water Distribution:** Ensuring equitable and efficient distribution of water across Delhi's different areas.

**Leakage Reduction:** Implementing measures to minimize water losses due to pipe leakages or system inefficiencies.

**Recycling and Reuse:** Promoting wastewater recycling and reuse for non-potable purposes, such as industrial use or landscape irrigation.

**Smart Water Metering:** Installing smart water meters to monitor and regulate water consumption, helping to reduce wastage and promote conservation.

**Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD):**

The **MCD** manages the city's sanitation and waste management systems, which directly impact water quality. They are involved in:

**Improving Wastewater Treatment:** Ensuring that wastewater is treated properly and reused, preventing contamination of natural water sources.

**Public Awareness:** Running awareness programs on water conservation and encouraging the proper disposal of waste to prevent water pollution.

**For more readings follow the links below:**

<https://mcdonline.nic.in/portal>

<https://environment.delhi.gov.in/environment/waste-management>

<https://delhijalboard.delhi.gov.in/>