



“DIMENSION OF WATER PROBLEM AND WATER MARKETIZATION”

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Abstract

Water, which is highly valued commodity rightly considered as blue gold, life saving thing etc., however subjected to serious concern today. If we don't realize and correct the problems related to water surely, human beings perish from planet. History reveals that civilization flourish in the watering area, and perishes due to water problem. Today water resource required deep as well as wide range of research, since the problem related to water resource in multi dimension, such as duplicating ground level water, high level of contamination, large wastage's, contamination of all water sources, and shortage of water etc., This conceptual paper aims at throwing light on the various problems related to water resources not only in India but Globally. It also aims at bringing the risk of water privatization and marketisation, under the background attempt of global institution which fevers corporate role in water management. This paper brings out the possible risk of water contamination and depicting water level, causes and effects were concluded on the research basis, finally suitable remedies are suggested in the conclusionary part.

Keywords: - Water, Contamination, Depleting, Over Utilization, Marketization, Corporate Company, Govt, Rich, Poor, Water Price, Human Being.

Introduction

On 20th March 2018 Tuesday the Brazil president Michel Temer addressing world water forum said world must race to avert disastrous loss of water supply. This statement came under the background report of U.N. which reported 5.7 billion people may run short of drinking water by 2050. Which further said that 3.6 billion people i.e. half of the world population, is already live in areas where water can be scare at least one month a year. W.H.Auden rightly remarked thousands have lived without love, not one without water, It is rightly observed. **Water as “Blue Gold”**. In my view water is more precious than gold. It is life saving. It is rightly found that the globe is running out of fresh water. In this regard various environmentalists, human right activities, renewed scholars, indigenious women's group, farmers and other are conducting various awareness of water utilization. Even it is predicted that if at all there is a third world war, expert are of the opinion that, the main reason for war would be water disputes.

Water is a renewable resource, which is a constituent of hydrosphere. Which fulfills the day to day requirement of mankind? Even –though it is considered as renewable, questions are raised about its renewable nature. It is due to mis management, shortage, contamination and mainly the depleting level of ground water. Hence the study is more need of the day

Objective of Study

1. To realize the importance of water resource.
2. To know and analyse the various problems associates with water resource.
3. To assess the damages caused to mankind due to scarcity and contamination of water resource.
4. To analyse the role and consequences of water marketization by companies
5. To find the suitable remedies to the serious problems associate with water resources.

Methodology

Present study related to water resources is mainly based on secondary data. The data is collected from various reputed Journals, magazines; news papers. Besides information is obtained from Google search: which is analyzed.



Some Statistics of Water Resource

In this earth out of total water available, 97.5 percent is saline, found in ocean. The remaining 2.5% of water is fresh water; however, this 2.5% of water is not available for human consumption 1.97% is in the form of frozen ice. The ground water is 0.01%. Whereas water in the form of river and lakes are 0.02%, soil and atmosphere has 0.01% thus very small portion of water is available for human consumption. Besides this small portion is unevenly distributed geographically. Thus one can easily smell the gravity of the problem of water.

Over Utilization and Wastage of Water

With the cultural and civilization advancement, the traditional way of water utilization has come to halt. During past only required quantity of water was lifted from rivers, streams, ponds lakes and artificial wells, where only minimum amount of water was lifted for requirement in most of the cases water was lifted from distanced areas and brought to houses, in those day lifting and shifting were difficult task, hence minimum consumption of water was in practice. But modern city culture and advancement in science paved the way of taping systems overhead tank, fixation of motors etc., In the normal circumstances every house has an average 10 taps, water consumption increased enormously everyone start using underground water by means of bore well un regulated pipe lines and bore wells are so common, where large amount of water is extracted and wasted. This has virtually resulted in lowering of water table and drying of wells.

Further the present methods of water mining are totally against the sustainable use of water, It is over pumped universally. It is reported that 20% water is withdrawing just in a year. The underground water which is accumulated over a period of hundreds of year is pumped out in a very short span of time. Massive use of water in industries is another problem of serious concern. Millions of farmers and house hold are using personal pumps, all these leads to drying up of planet. It is predicted that the water demand is double by 2025 and industrial water demand will triple. Under these circumstances imagine what shall be the life without water?

Contamination of water Bodies

The serious threat for water in the present scenario is contamination. Whatever may be the form of water source such as Ground level, lakes, ponds, river stream and open wells etc. are constantly exposed to the risk of contamination.

The large quantity of waste and unclean water generated due to sanitation and house hold activity ends up with any form of source of clean water. This un clean chemical mixed water mostly reaches to nearly ponds and lakes as the drains will finally linked with them. Chemical mixed Industrial waste poisonous water also directed to the ponds, lakes, streams and rivers, this further result in water contamination. Further the effected were so severe that the unsafe contamination water which is seeps by earth leads to contamination of ground level water. Hence along with depletion of ground level water the contamination of same is serious concern today.

Global scenario of water crisis and contamination

Worldwide more than 2 Billion people living in water stressed areas. Humanity is polluting, ecological crisis deepens, and more children are killed by dirty water in back world countries. This is more than the death rate of war, malaria and traffic accident W.H.O reports that 80% of disease in world is due to contaminated water. It has become a symbol of growing in equality in our world. The wealthy people enjoy water at any time where as millions of poor have only contaminated water for their share.

It is to be note that there is a huge gap between, first world and third world in water consumption the average human needs fifty liters of water per day for various purpose the average consumption of water per individual in Africa is six liters. Where as in north American uses Six hundred liters of water per day. UNO in its report says, by 2030 half of the population in the huge urban centers will be slum dwellers due to lack of access to water. Nearly 90% of waste and dirty water produced by the backward countries is dirtily discharged in to various water bodies. It is reported that 90% of ground level water in China is contaminated only 25% of population in Pakistan access to fresh drinking water. Indonesia has very less number of people who are connected to a well drainage system, leading to severe pollution. 65% of ground water in Bangladesh is contaminated.



Further reports give information that 70% of Indian Rivers and lakes are polluted to the extent that they are not safe for drinking and bathing. Millions of Indian do not have adequate sanitation. Most of the Indian Rivers are highly polluted. **Under these circumstances sure we don't required 3rd or 4th world war to destroy mankind, but scarcity of water itself is enough to destroy human being.**

Marketization and Emergency of Corporate Sector in Water

Marketization of water is another dimension of problem. Attempt were made to shift the ownership of water administration from public to private, the basic belief was that water can be managed well under the private market based system. Washington took the initiation Great Britain sold off the water bodies to private companies' water metering system were introduced, consequently water prices increased. The process of marketization of water became global. Water bottling plant grove like mushroom, widely spread all over the countries, including India where bottling system and selling of water is common. During purification process nearly 60% of water is subjected to waste. It is astonishing to know that a liter of water is sold to the equivalent price of one liter milk in India. Besides number of companies have entered into water market globally.

Fresh water is further controlled by corporate world. This move is very well supported by government and global organization. This is considered as unfortunate move. The major decision related to water must be taken by government but the corporate world makes the crucial decision related to water resource. The complete control over water by private companies and corporate world, will finally decides who lives and who dies. Under these circumstances the bottled water distribution comes in market forces are expected to be very costly. As in case of Saudi Arabia and other part of European countries who are depending on high cost technology for purification of water shall further increase the cost of water. This will leads to social economic injustice, as water will flow where the money is, not where it is needed. No corporate in business come forward to provide water to the weaker section of society, when asked, they say it is the responsibility of government. Thus poor citizen are hit very hard, things will not stop there, the powerful water corporate start lobbying, they might start advising government regarding water policy. All these leads to sharp rise in profit and sever fall in the supply of water to poor people.

Conclusion

Water a natural gift and life saving thing is the most essential for human being, mismanagement in terms of distribution or contamination is highly regrettable. What is required is highly discipline in the management of water, which not only prevents large wastages but leads to judicious consumption. The water disciplinary should also focus on prevention of contamination of water and water bodies. Govt should initiate fare distribution of water to all. Highly disciplinary activities are to be practice in the management and disposable of waste, and dirty water. All sources of water bodies must be well protected and cleanliness is maintained. Sincere efforts must be practiced in management of rain water steps must be taken to recharge all water bodies. Rain water harvesting point must be made compulsory in every house. Most importantly purification units must be established to pure the waste dirty water, which can be reuse. Incentive must be practiced to those who contribute for stopping pollution and construction work in water management, besides nationalization of water resource in better option rather than privatization. Construction of dams revival of water bodies, a forestation desalting programs further helpful. Finally government should not let the people to have their own pump set, which is to be regulating with appropriate water policy.

Source

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