

Impact of Water Availability on the Agriculture of Jalaun District of U.P.

Abstract

Water availability for the human being and agriculture production is highly essential condition for the existence of human being on the earth.

In India, adequate, sustainable and potable water is challenging issue specially in drought prone area of bundelkhand specially in Jalaun district of U.P.

Keywords: Water Availability, Jalaun District.

Introduction

The availability of potable drinking water for human being and for agriculture sector is basic human right and prerequisite condition for socio economics development

Gandhi Ji said "Sanitation is more important and then independence." Jalaun district of U.P. is a part of Bundelkhand region its major river are betwa Jamuna, Chambal etc. This district is less prone to drought like other region of the bundelkhand but with the passage of time this district has been also facing problem of water scarcity in many areas due to lots of reasons like slipping down ground water level and uneven rainfall in this region and other utilization of water in production of water intensive crops like peppermint, Green peas and other HYVs which are water intensive crops.

Objective of the study

1. Two analyses the water level in this region of around 40 years.
2. To study the cropping pattern of this Jalaun district.
3. To analyses the rainfall pattern in this district.
4. To study the sources of water supply in this district Jalaun.
5. A ground reality report of a village Kharusa of district Jalaun U.P. will analyse on the basis of water availability cropping pattern, use & misuse of water etc.

Research Design

Researcher collected data of rainfall from the meterological deptt. Of U.P. and on the basis of personal experiences of farmers of villages of Jalaun by questionnaire pattern so that study is based on primary and secondary sources of data.

Lesser availability of drinking water causes a severe drought in Bundelkhand region. It also leads to Loss of agriculture. Thousands of hand pumps are dried off.

The main cause of less underground water recharge and low rainfall is deforestation. Less surface water led to depletion in groundwater due to less recharge. The result of these can be seen as, firstly, the overall irrigation water availability came down. Secondly, the availability drinking water has been impacted.

The current drought in Bundelkhand impacted millions of people and almost 50% of farm land.

The Bundelkhand region comprises of 13 district of U.P. & M.P. out of which around 40% of region is population migrated out. In Bundelkhand, more than 80% of people depends on agriculture & livestock.

In Bundelkhand only 7% of villages had drinking water availability throughout the year.

There lies a district named Jalaun surrounded by Jhansi, Hamirpur, Oraiya, Kanpur & State boundary of M.P. where agriculture is efficiently possible. But now, the uneven rainfall, hailstorms, frost and storms has increased which effects the crops and farmers a lot.

Of the total monsoonal rainfall 70% of it fall off in short period of 20 days that cause flood & less underground recharge is possible because of huge deforestation. Hence, less drinking water is recharged for whole years also cause drought condition.



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The scarcity of water is a district fallout of environment degradation. Deforestation means fast soil erosion and silting up of the tanks & wells.

Due to this scarcity of water, several rainwater harvesting tanks were laid down. Chandila Tanks is famous in Bundelkhand.

Increase in population leads to the vast use of underground water. To meet the need of population, various types of summersible or motors are laid which assets the huge misuse of water.

The misuse of water is seen in Jalaun district where there is no water scarcity.

Let us take an example of Kharusa village of Jalaun district. Where more than 250 tube wells were situated with motor fitted in each of it. And almost all village houses had their separate motor connection of summersable pumps.

The misuse of done in unexpected amount and due to this wells which are laid earlier are dried off. The water level that was 10 feet two decade ago now gone to 110 feet. And if the wastage of water continues with same rate than, a time will come after 20 years where no water will be left.

Over a period of time, less recharge of groundwater will accomplish as the main source of recharging like tanks, ponds & the forest have vanished . Also n o agriculture will further possible and fertile land will convert into arid land & people have to migrate from this place.

Suggestion

Hence, several measures have to be taken in order to combat drinking water scarcity in the drought affected region.

1. Safe drinking water should be our highest priority.
2. Making government schemes effective,
3. Promoting of appropriate industries, not water intensive ones.
4. Agriculture policy must be redrafted.
5. Civil society monitoring of government programme.
6. Drinking water security plans.
7. Appropriate water management based on the ecology.
8. Government must be partner is long term crises management.

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