NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM CUM WORKSHOP ON SPRINGSHED MANAGEMENT

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Organised by
North Eastern Regional Institute of Water and Land Management
In Collaboration with
National Institute of Hydrology &
Central Ground Water Board

Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India

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About the National Symposium cum Workshop on Springshed Management

Introduction

Nearly 200 million Indians depend upon spring water across the Himalayas, Western Ghats, Eastern Ghats, Aravallis and other such mountain ranges which imply that more than 15 percent of India's population depends on spring water (Niti Aayog). The major portion of North Eastern Region of India falls in the Himalayas ranges & has a total geographical area of 262,179 km. Out of this, 63 percent of North eastern region of India is mountainous and 65 percent covered with forest. The recharge zones of most of the springs are located in these forest areas. Springs have provided water to the mountain communities for centuries and several measures for rainwater conservation, groundwater recharge and aquifer management is essential for spring-shed management. Many of these springs are used for household and drinking purposes. Unfortunately these springs are drying up leading to shortage of water for the people living in the hilly region.

The reasons may be many however we cannot deny the changing climatic scenario especially erratic rainfall pattern, seismic activity, ecological degradation, land use change for infrastructural development which is posing huge pressures on mountain aquifer system. Thus the problem of dying springs is being increasingly felt across the mountain regions of the country which lead to change from water security to water scarcity. Thus there is an urgent requirement to develop and manage springshed.

Development of springshed requires data such as spring mapping, spring discharge, rainfall, water quality, socio-economic baseline, hydrogeological mapping, design recharge, impact assessment of springshed works. The Jal Jeevan Mission of Ministry Jal Shakti, Government of India envisioned providing safe and adequate drinking water to all households by 2024 in rural areas. This calls for water source sustainability measures as recharge, water conservation, rainwater harvesting and revival of springsheds. This symposium intends to identify status, challenges and revival of springshed for increased water availability and restore the ecosystem for combating global climate change and sustainable development of water resources.

Themes

- Springshed Management to ensure water security in Indian Himalayan Region
- Springshed management for North East India and Indian Himalayan Region
- Hydrology and geological aspects of springs and impact of climate change in springshed
- Capacity Building, policy initiatives and road maps for spring rejuvenation

Targets

Professionals, scientist, academicians, Government officers, students, researchers, experts working in respective themes, NGOs and community members from Central/State/ Regional Organizations.

Expected Outcome

Spring mapping, development and management in North Eastern India is very essential for mitigating water scarcity of this region. This national symposium is expected to bring together all the stockholders and different agencies including CSOs and NGOs working on springshed management in the region. Knowledge sharing and preparing the roadmap for future activities is expected to be achieved during these deliberations. As the state governments are the important participants in this symposium, it is also anticipated that convergence in efforts on springshed management and sustainable water resource development will be a reality.

PLEASE CONTACT

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