



Rajasthan to Build Water Harvesting Units

Why in News?

The Rajasthan government has chosen to increase efforts in [water conservation](#) in the state with the [Mukhyamantri Jal Swavlamban Abhiyan 2.0](#) in response to [water scarcity](#) issues in various regions.

- Under the initiative, there is a plan **to construct 500,000 water harvesting structures in 20,000 villages over the next four years.**

Key Points

- As per the government statistics, Rajasthan, known as one of the driest areas in the country, has consistently dealt with a lack of water.
 - The **state receives an annual rainfall varying from 100 mm to 800 mm**, resulting in numerous regions experiencing **water shortages, including for basic drinking needs.**
- Rainfall is the main contributor to **groundwater replenishment** in the state, and water levels differ significantly throughout the region.
 - A government report highlighted Rajasthan as one of the prominent states where groundwater sources have been excessively utilized.
- [Rajasthan State Industrial Development & Investment Corporation \(RIICO\)](#) recently released a notification requiring all individuals leasing plots measuring 500 square meters or more to install [rainwater harvesting systems](#) on their property to enhance water conservation efforts and boost groundwater levels.
- **Rajasthan Police Housing and Construction Corporation Limited (RPH&CCL)** will also incorporate rainwater harvesting in its current building projects.

Mukhyamantri Jal Swavlamban Abhiyan

- **CM launched the campaign** from village Gardan Kheri in **Jhalawar district** of Rajasthan on 27th January **2016**.
- The Scheme is based on **Four-waters Concept** that involves harvesting of available runoff (rain water, ground water, under-ground water & in situ soil moisture) in rural areas by treatment of catchment, proper utilization, renovation & creation of new water harvesting structures.

Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation (RIICO)

- It is a **premier agency of the Government of Rajasthan** that has played an important role in the industrial development of Rajasthan, it was **formed in 1980**.
- A Government enterprise established under **Companies Act, 1956** on 28th March 1969 as Rajasthan State Industrial & Mineral Development Corporation (RSIMDC) was divided into two entities on 1st January 1980:
 - Rajasthan State Industrial Development & Investment Corporation Limited (**RIICO**)
 - Rajasthan State Mineral Development Corporation (**RSMDC**)

