

Q2

India is well endowed with fresh water resources. Critically examine why it still suffers from water scarcity.

Answer:

India has many perennial rivers in northern parts and many seasonal rivers in the southern part. The country also receive a good amount of rain over the year. Despite this, the country suffers from water scarcity. One of the reason for water scarcity is the huge and growing population.

The causes of water scarcity can be discussed as:

1) Unequal water distribution as most of the rainfall that is received in India is

distributed over a specific time and area. The level of water table rises during rainfall months but then decreases when there is no rainfall.

2) Overpopulated cities which create pressure on natural resources add to the problem of water scarcity.

3) Low awareness about rain water harvesting. Water usage efficiency coupled with increasing purchasing power of people has increased demand leading to increase of problem.

4) Climate change increase incidences of droughts & reduce annual precipitation in drought prone central and north west India.

5) The facilities created for water treatment are not maintained properly because adequate fees are not charged for water supply.

Therefore there is a need to meet the problem of water scarcity it is necessary to use water resources in a planned and comprehensive way.