



SECTOR VISION

The Government is committed to improving the quality of life and economic prosperity by providing access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation facilities to the people of Sri Lanka, while taking the necessary measures for the protection of environment and water resources through controlling pollution.

WATER SUPPLY

There are 277 Major, Minor and Small Water Supply Schemes in operation under the NWSDB's purview. Out of this, 29 schemes cover major cities and 248 schemes cover Townships and Villages. Other than National Water Supply & Drainage Board, Local Authority, Community Based Organization are managing number of Water Supply Schemes. 26.5% of total population are covered with pipe borne water supply and 11.7% of population are covered with hand pumps and tube wells.

Summary of Operations

Description	2002
Number of Schemes under NWSDB purview	277
Number of Connections	732,935
Total quantity of Water Produces (M.Cu.m)	350

DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

JICA Funded Projects

The project is being implanted under Japanese Grant Aid Assistance at Nuwara Eliya. 75,000 people including the floating population will be benefited under the project.

JBIC Funded Projects

Towns South / North of Colombo Water Supply Project

The towns served under the project are Kesbewa, Piliyandala, Mahragama, Homagama, Keselwatte and Arawwala. Construction works on the main contract have been completed. Homagama nad Kesbewa Water Supply Schemes were commissioned. Commissioning of the scheme in Keselwatta area is in progress.

In addition to the original project, a sub project extending the supply to areas such as Hokandara, Mattegoda and Athurugiriya was implemented utilizing projects savings.

The towns served under the project are Mahara, Ja-Ela, Ragama, Kandana, Welisara and Biyagama.

Kalu Ganga Water Supply Project

Under the Stage 1 of this project the capacity of Greater Colombo Water Supply will be enhanced by 60,000 m3 /day and will benefit the towns, Horana, Bandaragama, Mortuwa and Panadura.

Greater Kandy Water Supply Augmentation Project

The project includes augmentation of the water supply in Kandy Municipality and several Pradeshiya Sabha areas in Greater Kandy.

ADB Assistance

ADB Proposed Project (2004)

- New Water Supply, Sanitation and drainage facilities to Batticaloa and Muthur.

Expansion of existing Polonnaruwa and Hambantota Water Supply Schemes and provision of Sanitation facilities. Salinity barrier across Nilwala Ganga. RWS Programme in Polonnaruwa and Anuradhapura district. Institutional support such as training, public awareness and financial and operational improvement of NWSDB.

Water Resources Management Project Kelani Conservation Barrage

It is proposed to construct a water treatment plant at the right bank of Kelani river drawing raw water from Kelani to augment the water supply facilities to the Towns North of Colombo. Since the increased abstraction during low flow conditions creates a high salinity situation, a barrage is proposed to be constructed across the river under the Water Resources Management Project.

French / ADB Assistance

Augmentation of Anuradhapura Town Water Supply Scheme will benefit additional population of 120,000 in and around Anuradhapura City. In addition to the rehabilitation of the existing treatment works (2.4 mgd) the new treatment facility will be provided to suit the overall design capacity of 8.6 mgd.

World Bank Assistance

Colombo Environmental Improvement Project

National Water Supply & Drainage Board implements this project, while the Ministry of Housing and Plantation Infrastructure handles the funding and administration activities. The revised project cost is Rs1.8 billion.

The project components under the purview of National Water Supply & Drainage Board are,

- * Beria Lake Restoration - Waste Water Collection and Disposal System.
- * Sewer networks (Laying) n Ja-Ela /Ekala and Ratmalana/ Moratuwa Industrial / Residential areas.

Australian /New Zealand Bank Assistance

Integrated Water Supply Scheme for Eastern Coastal Towns of Ampara District - Phase I

This project was implemented under a Design and Build contract funded by Australia & New Zealand Banking Group Limited (ANZ) / Expat Finance Insurance Corporation (EFIC) Of Australia.

The implementation is planned for 2002 to 2005 and a total of 200,000 persons will benefit from this project.

Australian Assistance

Hikkaduwa Coastal Zone Waste Management Project

Grant assistance has been received from the Australian Government for this project

A total resident population of 12,500 including the floating population and tourists will benefit from this project.

German Assistance

Nawalapitiya, Ampara and Koggala Water Supply Project

Augmentation of Nawalapitiya, Ampara and Koggala Water Supply Schemes and Koggala Sewerage Scheme are to be implemented through German assistance. A total population of 88,000 will benefit from this project.

Korean Assistance Greater Galle Project

This project will provide water supply to Akmeemana, Bope Poddala, parts of Hikkaduwa and Habaraduwa Pradeshiya Sabhas (PS) areas while augmenting the present scheme for Galle Municipal Council (MC) A population of 200,000 will be benefited

RURAL WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION PROGRAMME

Approximately 70% of the population of Sri Lanka lives in rural areas and the majority has no access to safe drinking water.

This situation creates serious health problems and as a result quality of life of rural people is affected.

Objective of the Project

The main objective of the project is to improve the health and well being of approximately one million people living in the selected districts through improvement of their water supply and sanitation facilities.

The project period is six years (2000-2005) and implementation will be carried out in three batches of selected Pradeshiya Sabha Division

New Approach in RWS &S

The approach to provision of water supply and sanitation facilities is based on Demand Responsive principle. The project responds to demands or needs expressed by the communities.

Accordingly, the communities will be organized and prepared to take all decisions relating to planning & design, construction of facilities and sustainability of the completed facilities.

On going Project areas are

Anuradhapura	Kalutara	Kegalle
Monaragala	Puttalam	Hambantota

PARTICIPATORY MANAGEMENT

The NWSDB has realized the advantages of beneficiary participation in decision making and implementation in order to achieve sustainability of community centered development programmes. The ADB funded third water supply and sanitation project is being implemented with participatory management in the rural area. This process has created a sense of ownership and acceptance of total responsibility of operation and maintenance of the constructed assets by the community. Training programmes have been conducted for the community-based organizations on technical aspects, financial management and tariff setting etc, to sustain these rural schemes in the long term.

Publicity and consumer awareness programs on effective use of water and reduction of non-revenue water are being conducted.

The public Awareness campaign under the Good Governance of Urban Water Supply programme will be launched in June 2003.

SECTOR PLANNING

NWSDB has launched a programme to prepare district-wise strategic plans for water supply sector development categorizing them into short term, medium term and long term periods. Under this programme seventeen (17) district plans have been completed.

Sponsored by

- ✧ Beijing Municipal Engineering Corporation
- ✧ Unicef
- ✧ Ceywater Consultants (Pvt.) Ltd.
- ✧ Statkraft Groner
- ✧ S-Lon Lanka (Pvt.) Ltd.
- ✧ Duro Pipe Industrial (Pvt.) Ltd.
- ✧ Central Industries Ltd.
- ✧ China Geo-Engineering Corporation
- ✧ Sunpower Systems (Pvt.) Ltd.

Water For Future

World Water Day



The world water day with the theme "Water For Future" as declared by United Nations Celebrates at Bandaranayaka International Conference Hall on 22nd March 2003 at 9.00 a.m.

Message from Hon. Minister



The year 2003 has been declared by the United Nations General Assembly as the International Year of Fresh Water. The freshwater resources of our planet are unevenly distributed and in many places they are dwindling while demand is increasing. We are drawing out more than can be renewed. This downward trend and the water stress causes are affected by population pressure, economic growth, demographic shifts, technological change, social factors and environmental dynamics.

Most of the countries, specially under developed countries like ours are facing a water crisis. This crisis is the current widespread and chronic lack of access to safe and affordable drinking water and sanitation, the high incidence of water-related diseases, the destruction of wetlands, and the degradation of water quality in rivers and lakes. As the imbalance increases, communities face ever greater risks from water-borne diseases, pollution disasters, food shortages and water-related hazards such as floods or drought.

We in our country are subject to water stress in several areas which can be defined as a condition of insufficient water of satisfactory quality and quantity to meet human and environmental needs.

Both these situations reveal an explosive potential for social conflict and widespread disruption, not to mention bleak prospects for economic growth and human development. Competition may arise between different user groups or sectors within the country, such as between agriculture and cities.

Therefore it is essential to take the full measure of progress and problems in managing freshwater resources. Then, by fitting the pieces together with the aid of research, integrated management strategies, creative policy formulation and the participation of all stakeholders, we must attempt to ensure more sustainable use of our most precious resource.

This should be our commitment on this World Water Day.

Arumugam Thondaman

Minister of Housing & Plantation Infrastructure

Message from Hon. Deputy Minister



It is with great pleasure that I send this message to the News Paper supplements published to mark the World Water Day.

The demand for water is rising every year due to industrialization; urbanization and population growth but no one can expect increase in the natural water resources. We have to, therefore, find ways and means to ensure that there is no shortage of fresh water in any part of the country in the future.

Our people in rural areas have to walk several miles every day to collect water for their domestic use, which takes the major part of their time. The poor living in urban areas is the most affected category owing to non-availability of sufficient water required for their day to day living. The National Water Supply & Drainage Board, Ministry of Irrigation and Water Management and Water Resources Board should jointly formulate suitable plans and programs to ensure supply of pure drinking water to the poor masses living in all parts of the country and thereby build a healthy society. The National Water Supply & Drainage Board has already implemented several water supply schemes to cater the needs of the rural masses but still the Board is facing a challenge in this regard.

On the World Water Day I request all water consumers to prevent wastage of drinking water to enable the National Water Supply & Drainage Board to ensure water supply to every one in our beautiful island which is blessed with mountains, rivers, ponds, tanks and sea.

Basheer Segudawood, M.P.

Deputy Minister of Housing

Message form Secretary



Water is our common treasure, which we have to hand on to the next generation. However, trends show a further increase of the pressure on freshwater resources due to a steady escalation in the amount of water used for daily life, agriculture and industries. Pollution also affectively diminishes freshwater reserves. There are serious economic, social and environmental consequences from the degradation of water resources. In several parts of the country, water scarcity, coupled with inadequate sanitation and poor control, has already caused social tensions, affecting mostly the poor, who are hit first and hardest. The most serious immediate challenge is the fact that thousands of people lack access to safe drinking water and are not provided with adequate sanitation. There is no doubt that water is a crucial issue, however greatly undervalued, and that it requires the urgent attention of all parties dealing with the development and management of water resources.

Water scarcity is steadily worsening, caused by ever-increasing water withdrawals for development activities and diminishing availability, and water security is emerging as a global issue. The Ministerial Conference organised within the framework of the Second World Water Forum held at The Hague in March 2000 called for the achievement of water security for all in the twenty-first century. Basically, water security implies that every person should have access to enough safe water at an affordable cost to lead a healthy and productive life, while sustainable development and political stability are promoted. This is a common goal for action by all the stakeholders involved in managing water resources, with the Government playing the pivotal role in this process.

In Sri Lanka, water continues to be used wastefully. In the next half century, if there is no change in current wasteful water-use patterns, a larger share of the population is likely to live in water-stressed conditions with a shortage of clean water for basic needs. Conservation is therefore considered a primary means to ease pressure on water resources and achieve the sustainability of their development. To achieve the goal of a secure and sustainable water future, there is obviously a need for increased efficiency in using the current water supplies. It is now widely recognized that water conservation activities, including introduction of water-saving technologies in agriculture and industries, water loss reduction programmes, reuse of wastewater and public awareness campaigns for rational water use, would result in essential water savings. The water saved could then be made available to people who lack sustainable access to water-related services.

The promotion of public awareness is one of the priorities for combating the degradation of the aquatic environment and for achieving an adequate supply of water for sustainable economic and social development. Public information and education is one of the critical water conservation measures designed to promote increased efficiency of water use. Raising public understanding is also indispensable for mobilizing public support for policies and programmes related to water resources development and management as well as for specific water projects. Although, public education programmes and campaigns on water conservation have proved to be successful, overall understanding of the challenges we face in the water sector is alarmingly low and water issues are not yet accorded the status they deserve on the education agenda. Therefore the Government has a crucial role to play in raising public consciousness by initiating and guiding such programmes and activities.

This year, the year 2003 has been declared as the International year of freshwater by the United Nations General Assembly. Let us use the word 'Water day' this year to increase the awareness of the importance of water resources and to promote action at the national, provincial and local levels. Action has to be taken today in order to secure equitable access to adequate supplies of water on a sustainable basis.

Message from Mr. W. D. Alapperuma

Secretary,

Ministry of Housing & Plantation Infrastructure

Message form Chairman



The World Water Day is commemorated every year on 22nd March as declared by the United Nations, which focuses on the well being of the mankind. The importance of this date is personified by the declaration of the theme of the World Water Day as "Water for the Future" by the United Nations.

In our global village clean water for drinking is a scarce resource under the threat of contamination, pollution and wasteful use. It is time to focus on preservation and management of our precious gift of nature for the betterment of humanity and the posterity.

V. Sathyananthan

Chairman

National Water Supply & Drainage Board

Message form General Manager



World Water Day is of significant importance to the National Water Supply & Drainage Board (NWSDB). Being the main facilitator of drinking water supply facilities in Sri Lanka, the NWSDB endeavours to achieve the goals set by the government with respect to water supply coverage.

By devoting the 22nd of March as World Water Day, we promote public awareness to conserve and develop water resources. We focus attention on problems relating to drinking water supply, increase public awareness especially among school children about the importance of conservation, preservation and protection of water resources and drinking water. We also publish articles, hold seminars, exhibitions and organize dramas and competitions among youth relating to specific themes in the water sector.

Water for the future is the theme for World Water Day 2003. For the sake of future generations, every one of us should maintain and improve the quality and quantity of fresh water that is presently available.

The NWSDB is promoting community and user managed water supply systems in the rural sector to sustain the water supply facilities. It is planning to invite more and more private sector support to build, operate and maintain water supply facilities in the urban sector. Apart from the government's own funds, several foreign donors are actively involved at present in the provision of drinking water facilities in Sri Lanka.

We observe the water is one of the earth's most precious and threatened resources. Also, water and sanitation are key ingredients for improved life and development. Therefore, let us assess the impact of our services to the community and improve the link between water and development for the betterment of our future generations.

M. Wickramage

Actg. General Manager

National Water Supply & Drainage Board



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