

'Sujalam 2.0' Grey Water Recycling Project

On the World Water Day (22nd March), the Ministry of Jal Shakti launched a countrywide project to reuse grey water, or run-offs from kitchens, bathing and laundry.

Grey water:

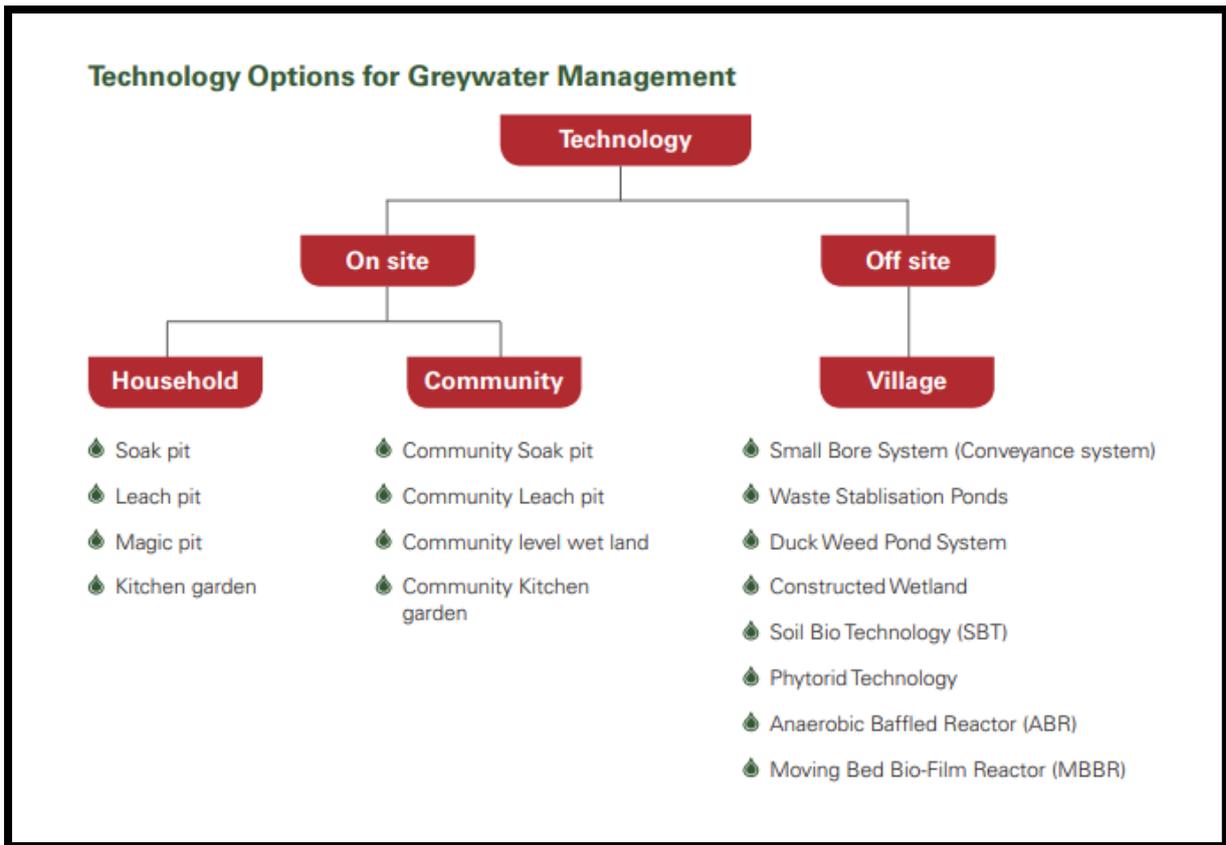
- Grey water is defined as wastewater that is produced from household processes (e.g. washing dishes, laundry and bathing).
- Grey water can contain harmful bacteria and even faecal matter that contaminates soil and groundwater.
- So far, India does not have a focused policy framework for management and usage of grey water in urban and rural areas. However, some guidelines for treatment of wastewater do exist.
- For example, the Central Public Health and Environmental Engineering Organisation (CPHEEO) has specified permitted discharge standards for treated water; use of treated wastewater in agriculture and horticulture (MoHUA, 2012).
- The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB, 2000) directs that treated wastewater can be used as a source of artificial ground water recharge once it meets standards and is compatible with existing groundwater.

'Sujalam 2.0' Grey Water Recycling Project:

- The campaign would focus on the creation of institutional level greywater management assets in Panchayat Ghar, healthcare facilities, schools, Anganwadi Centres (AWCs), community centres and other government institutions.
- Creation of individual and community greywater management assets will be encouraged.
- With active participation from all States and local communities' great success was achieved under the Sujlam 1.0 campaign which was started in August 2021.
- More than 1 million soak pits were built at household and community level across the country.

Funding for the Project:

The funds to execute the activities for greywater management will be sourced from Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen Phase-II or through 15th Finance Commission tied-grants or MGNREGS or through convergence of all.



Need to Address the Grey Water Crisis:

- Saving on fresh water use can significantly reduce household water bills, but also has a broader community benefit in reducing demands on public water supply.
- Reducing the amount of wastewater entering sewers or on-site treatment systems.
- 2.2 billion people across the world are facing a water crisis.
- Sustainable Development Goal 6 aims to provide universal access to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation.
- It is estimated that 31 billion litres of greywater is generated every day in India.
- Under Sujlam 2.0 campaign, over 6 lakh villages will see intense activity on solid and liquid waste management.
- In the present context, a lot of water will flow out of rural households.
- 6 Crore tap water connections have been provided under Jal Jeevan Mission since its launch in August 2019.
- A total of 9.24 Crore households in the country have access to water through taps.

References:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1808621>

<https://newsonair.com/2022/03/23/jal-shakti-minister-gajendra-singh-shekhawat-launches-sujalam-2-0-campaign-for-greywater-management-in-new-delhi/>