

Legislations in India

In India, there are separate legislations for RWH in different states. Some of the legislations in Indian states are mentioned below:

Ahmadabad (Gujarat):

In 2002, the Ahmadabad Urban Development Authority (AUDA) had made rainwater harvesting mandatory for all buildings covering an area of over 1,500 m². According to the rule, for a cover area of over 1,500 m², one percolation well is mandatory to ensure ground water recharge. For every additional 4,000 m² cover area, another well needs to be built.

Bengaluru (Karnataka):

In order to conserve water and ensure ground water recharge, the Karnataka government in February 2009 announced that buildings constructed in the city will have to compulsorily adopt rainwater harvesting facility. Residential sites, which exceed an area of 2400 sq ft (40 x 60 ft), shall create rain harvesting facility according to the new law.

Chennai (Tamilnadu):

Rainwater harvesting has been made mandatory in three storied buildings (irrespective of the size of the rooftop area). All new water and sewer connections are provided only after the installation of rainwater harvesting systems.

Gujarat:

The state roads and buildings department has made rainwater harvesting mandatory for all government buildings.

Haryana:

Haryana Urban Development Authority (HUDA) has made rainwater harvesting mandatory in all new buildings irrespective of the roof area. In the notified areas in Gurugram town and adjoining industrial areas all the institutions and residential colonies have been asked to adopt water harvesting by the Central Groundwater Authority.

Himachal Pradesh:

All commercial and institutional buildings, tourist and industrial complexes, hotels etc., existing or coming up and having a plinth area of more than 1000 m² will have rainwater storage facilities commensurate with the size of roof area. No objection certificates, required under different statutes will not be issued to the owners of the buildings unless they produce satisfactory proof of compliance of the new law. It has been recommended that the buildings will have rainwater storage facility commensurate with the size of roof in the open and set back area of the plot at the rate of 0.24 cubic feet per m² of the roof area.

Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh):

Rainwater harvesting has been made mandatory in all new buildings with an area of 300 m² or more.

Indore (Madhya Pradesh):

Rainwater harvesting has been made mandatory in all new buildings with an area of 250 m² or more.

Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh):

Rainwater harvesting has been made mandatory in all new buildings with an area of 1000 m² or more.

Kerala:

The Kerala Municipality Building Rules, 1999 was amended by a notification dated January 12, 2004 issued by the Government of Kerala to include rainwater harvesting structures in new construction.

Mumbai (Maharashtra):

The state government has made rainwater harvesting mandatory for all buildings that are being constructed on plots that are more than 1,000 m² in size.

New Delhi:

Since June 2001, the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Poverty Alleviation has made rainwater harvesting mandatory in all new buildings with a roof area of more than 100 m² and in all plots with an area of more than 1000 m² that are being developed. The Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has made rainwater harvesting mandatory in all institutions and residential colonies in notified areas (South and

south-west Delhi and adjoining areas like Faridabad, Gurugram, and Ghaziabad). This is also applicable to all the buildings in notified areas that have tube wells. However, it has been found that there is no uniformity in respect of the rainwater harvesting system approved by Central Ground Water Authority / Delhi Jal Board (DJB). Therefore, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) recently directed the CGWA, DJB, and the Delhi Pollution Control Committee to convene a meeting for fixing a uniform procedure and also for prescribing a format as well as proper design for the rainwater harvesting system to be installed by the hotels, hospitals, and malls

Port Blair (Andaman & Nicobar Islands):

In 2007, Port Blair Municipal Council (PBMC) directed all the persons related to construction work to provide a proper spout or tank for the collection of rainwater to be utilized for various domestic purposes other than drinking. As per the existing building by-laws 1999 the slab or roof of the building would have to be provided with a proper spout or gutter for collection of rainwater, which would be beneficial for the residents of the municipal area during water crisis. The PBMC had advised all the owners of buildings in the Municipal area to comply with the provisions within four months failing which action would be taken against them by the Council.

Rajasthan:

The state government has made rainwater harvesting mandatory for all public and commercial establishments and all properties in plots covering more than 500 m² in urban areas.

Tamilnadu:

Through an ordinance titled Tamilnadu Municipal Laws Ordinance, 2003, dated July 19, 2003, the government of Tamil Nadu has made rainwater harvesting mandatory for all the buildings, both public and private, in the state. It also warns the citizens on disconnect disconnection of water supply provided rainwater harvesting structures are not present.