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MAINS ANSWER WRITING APPROACH ANSWERS

Topic- GEOGRAPHY DAY 1



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Q.1) Why is the world today confronted with a crisis of availability and access to freshwater resources? (15mark) (250 words)

A healthy existence requires clean freshwater, but 1.1 billion people lack access to it and 2.7 billion face water scarcity at least one month a year. Two-thirds of humanity may face "water stress" by 2025.

Key causes of this crisis include:

- **Population growth:** In the previous 50 years, the human population has more than doubled, increasing freshwater demand.
- **Climate change** is changing precipitation patterns, creating droughts and water scarcity in some locations.
- **Water pollution:** Humans pollute freshwater sources, rendering it dangerous to drink.
- **Inefficient water use:** Agriculture requires 70% of the world's freshwater, but 60% is squandered due to leaky irrigation systems, inefficient application methods, and the growth of thirsty crops.
- Geography, climate, engineering, regulation, and competition for resources cause certain locations to have abundant freshwater while others suffer from drought and pollution.

This situation may be resolved to secure freshwater access for all. Here are some freshwater crisis solutions:

1. **Change consumption and lifestyles:** Educating individuals about water conservation and modifying their habits can minimize water usage.
2. **Recycle wastewater:** Treating and reusing wastewater reduces freshwater demand.
3. **Improve irrigation and agricultural methods:** Agriculture uses the most freshwater, therefore improving irrigation and agricultural practices can reduce water use.
4. **Price water properly:** Pricing water properly reduces waste and promotes conservation.

5. **Improve water catchment and harvesting:** Rainwater capture and storage can boost freshwater resources.
6. **Use community-based governance and partnerships** to manage freshwater resources sustainably and equitably.
7. **Improve policies and regulations:** Governments may support sustainable water management by improving policies and regulations.
8. **Reduce corporate water footprints:** Using more effective water management strategies can reduce water usage and waste.

Implementing these measures can help solve the freshwater crisis and ensure everyone has access. To implement these ideas, governments, corporations, and individuals must work together.

Q.2) India is well endowed with fresh water resources. Critically examine why it still suffers from water scarcity. (10mark) (150 words)

The NITI Aayog reported that many Indians experience severe to extreme water stress. Despite enormous freshwater resources, India has a water dilemma for the following reasons:

1. **Population growth:** India's 1.4 billion inhabitants pressure freshwater resources.
2. **Climate change:** Changes in precipitation patterns are producing droughts and water scarcity in some locations.
3. **Poor infrastructure and government control:** India's water infrastructure and government oversight are poor, resulting in unregulated water pollution and ineffective water management.
4. **Over-privatization:** Rapid urban growth in India has stretched government solutions, which over-privatization has compromised.
5. **Agriculture:** India produces a lot of grains, which depletes the water table.
6. **Groundwater depletion:** India pumps the most groundwater, causing contamination.
7. **Freshwater competition:** Population increase, urban development, farm output, and climate change are causing shortages.

India must educate people about water conservation, develop new water conservation technologies, recycle wastewater, improve irrigation and agricultural practices, price water appropriately, develop energy-efficient desalination plants, improve water catchment and harvesting, and develop and enact better policies and regulations to address this crisis. To implement these ideas, the government, corporations, and individuals must work together.
