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DOMESTIC WATER MANAGEMENT OF MACHHE VILLAGE BELAGAVI KARNATAKA

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ABSTRACT

Water is one of the significant natural resources required for primary survival of every living being. It is required in majority of the daily household activities. Karnataka faces acute water shortages in urban and rural areas. Belagavi receives an average rainfall of 1341 mm even though the urban as well as rural areas are facing issues of water scarcity. Hence this paper is undertaken to study the domestic water management of Machhe village, Belagavi Karnataka. A sample data of 25 households was collected using purposive sampling. The paper analyses water demand, water supply and the gap between the both.

KEYWORDS

Machee village, water management.

JEL CODES

Q25, Q50, L95.

ABBREVIATIONS**SHORT FORM**

LPCD

Ltrs

FULL FORM

Litres per Capita per Day

Litres

I. INTRODUCTION

The life on this planet is observed mainly because of the presence of water. Water is essential for all forms of life on this planet earth. Water is required in Industry, Agriculture, Households, Energy, Construction, etc. The water demand is increasing due to increase in population, changing life style, changing agriculture, etc. The water demand for household activities is considered as very crucial. The domestic/ household usage of water includes drinking, cooking, bathing, cleaning, gardening, etc. Unsafe water causes infections like diarrhea, cholera, typhoid, etc. These diseases cause lot of social and economic burden on the society. Simple provision of clean and safe water can save millions of lives. Access to safe water and adequate sanitation is a basic human right. On the other hand, water supply is decreasing because of water pollution, climate change, decreased rainfall, uneven distribution of water, etc. This paper studies the water demand, water supply, gap and the water issues in Machhe village, Belagavi Karnataka.

II. OBJECTIVES

1. To study the demand for water
2. To analyse the supply of water and its sources
3. To assess the gap in demand and supply of water
4. To understand the water related socio-economic problems faced by people

III. METHODOLOGY

The study is carried out at Machhe village, Belagavi as it is one of the growing village in Belagavi, Karnataka. The village has a population of 14,514. A data from sample of 25 households was collected using purposive sampling technique. Secondary data have been gathered from Gram panchayat office, Local bodies and other published sources. The data collected was analysed using statistical measures like tabulation, percentages, averages, diagrammatical representations.

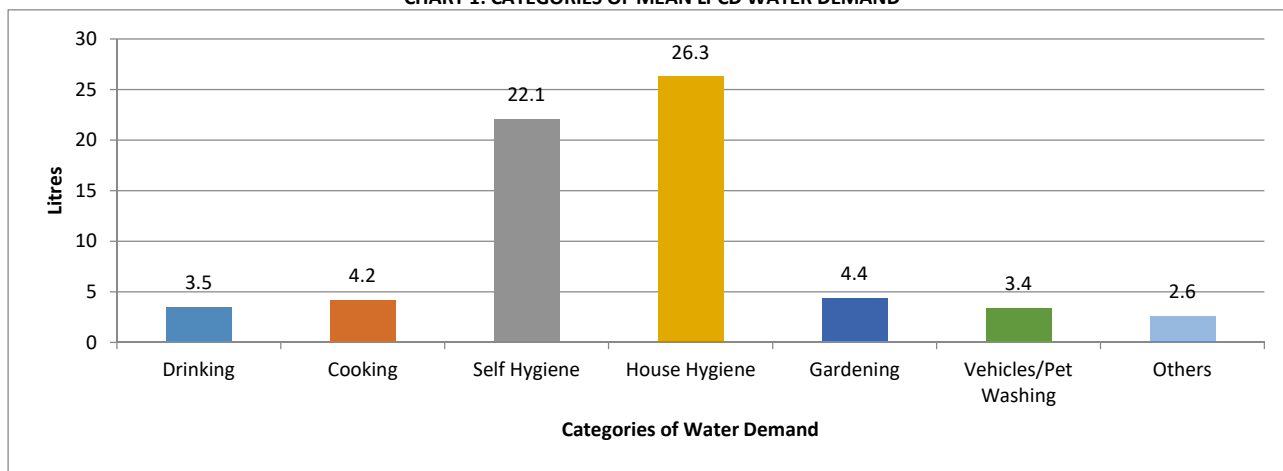
IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS**1. DEMAND/CONSUMPTION OF WATER**

Water at household level is demanded for Drinking, Cooking, Bathing, Cleaning etc. Water demand at household level is significant to maintain hygiene and health. Water demand is expected to increase due to various reasons like increase in population, economic growth, manufacturing, water intensive agriculture, urbanization, etc. Efficient water management is required to accomplish growing needs from every sector of the economy.

1.1. Category-wise Mean LPCD Water Demand

Household demand for water is classified and collected from households under 7 heads: Drinking, Cooking, Self-Hygiene, House-Hygiene, Gardening, Vehicles/Pet Washing, Others.

CHART 1: CATEGORIES OF MEAN LPCD WATER DEMAND



Source: Compiled from primary data.

From Chart 1, we can observe that the mean LPCD water demand for Drinking was 3.5 ltrs, Cooking - 4.2 ltrs, Self-Hygiene – 22.1 ltrs, House-Hygiene – 26.3 ltrs, Gardening – 4.4 ltrs, Vehicles/Pet Washing – 3.4 ltrs and Others – 2.6 ltrs. Total demand for water was 66.5 ltrs.

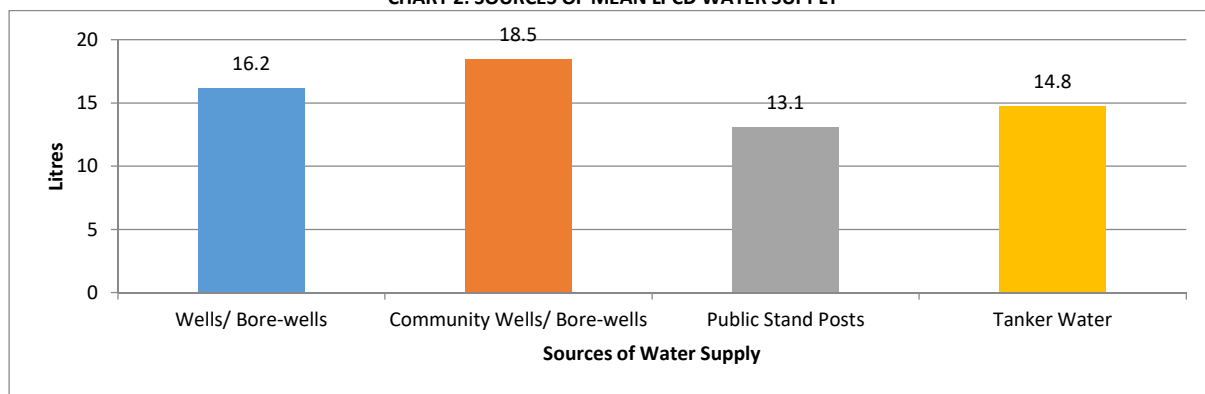
2. SUPPLY OF WATER

Water supply happens from sources like Wells/ Bore-wells, Community Wells/ Bore-wells, Public Stand Posts, Tanker Water. Majority of the households are facing water scarcity. They have to spend lot of time and money on water. Everyone at household are responsible for storing of water. Many households have to carry water from far off places and require an average of 4-5 trips to store the water. They face severe issues during summer season as they face water issues like reduced supply, muddy water, bad smell, etc.

2.1 Source-wise Mean LPCD Water Supply

The various water supply sources available in the village were Wells/ Bore-wells, Community Wells/ Bore-wells, Public Stand Posts, Tanker Water.

CHART 2: SOURCES OF MEAN LPCD WATER SUPPLY



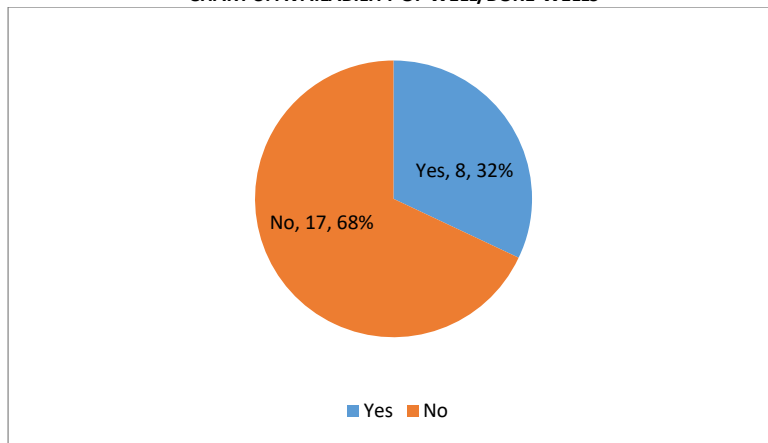
Source: Compiled from primary data.

From chart 2, we can see that the mean LPCD water supply from Wells/ Bore-wells was 16.2 ltrs, Community Wells/ Bore-wells – 18.5 ltrs, Public Stand Posts – 13.1 ltrs, and Tanker Water- 14.8 ltrs. Total supply of water was 62.6 ltrs. The people were aware of rain-water harvesting however still the rain-water harvesting was not practised in the study area.

2.2. Well/Bore-wells

In the study area few of the households had their own wells/ bore-wells. From the chart 3, it can be viewed that, only 32 per cent of the households had Well/Bore-wells and 68 per cent did not had Well/Bore-wells.

CHART 3: AVAILABILITY OF WELL/BORE-WELLS

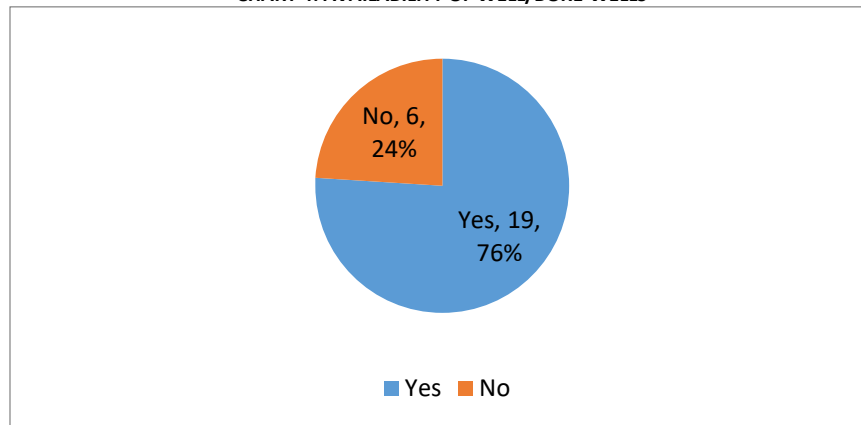


Source: Compiled from primary data.

2.3. Tanker Water Usage

Majority of the households use tanker water. The usage increases during summer season. From the chart 4, it can be seen that 76 per cent households use tanker water and only 24 per cent of households do not use tanker water.

CHART 4: AVAILABILITY OF WELL/BORE-WELLS



3. DEMAND SUPPLY GAP

The Mean LPCD Supply in the village was 62.6 Ltrs and Mean LPCD Demand was 66.5 Ltrs. The Mean LPCD Gap was - 3.9 Ltrs. The demand/consumption is low when compared to the Urban Development Ministry standard of LPCD 70 Ltrs. The consumption of water is low due to various reasons like absence of Wells/ Bore-wells, Cost of Tanker Water, limited water supply from Public Stand Posts and Community Wells/ Bore-wells.

4. SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

In Machhe village, households face numerous socio-economic problems due to shortage of water problems. They said storage of water becomes a situation of competition, it puts lots of pressure and irritation during collection and storage of water. Households have to wake up early to collect and store water, lot of time is consumed in this collection and storage of water. It also puts physical stress as for many households the water has to be carried from far off areas and 4-5 trips are required.

V. CONCLUSION

The Mean LPCD Supply in the village was 62.6 Ltrs and Mean LPCD Demand was 66.5 Ltrs. The Mean LPCD Gap was - 3.9 Ltrs. The demand/consumption is low when compared to the Urban Development Ministry standard of LPCD 70 Ltrs. Actually people have adjusted their water consumption because of reduced water availability. This reduced consumption puts the individuals in health and hygiene risks. Techniques of Rain-water harvesting have to be practiced to solve the problems of water scarcity.

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With sincere regards

Thanking you profoundly

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Sd/-

Co-ordinator

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