

Village Water and Sanitation Committees

October 5, 2020

In News

A Village Water and Sanitation Committee shall be constituted as a **sub-committee of Gram Panchayat** in Gram Panchayats, for providing support in terms of motivation, mobilization, implementation and supervision of the programme. The VWSC should play a **crucial role in the comprehensive and saturation approach to Nirmal Grams.**

More About VWSC

- **Village level institutions** (VLI) are collectives of people residing in the same village. These institutions are formed either through external intervention or are initiated by the people.
- It will function as a **legal entity as envisaged in the 73rd Amendment to the Constitution.**
- It may be **headed by Sarpanch**/ Up Sarpanch / GP member/ traditional village head/ senior village leader as the Gram Sabha may decide and Panchayat Secretary/ Patwari/ Talati may act as Secretary.
- It may consist of **10-15 members** comprising elected members of Panchayat up to 25% of the composition; **50% women members** (key to success); and remaining 25% may consist of representatives of weaker sections of the village (SC/ ST) proportional to their population.
- They are formed as **implementation agencies under National Jal Jeevan Mission.**
- It is envisaged under JJM that the community will play a lead role in planning, implementation, management, operation and maintenance of in-village water supply infrastructure thereby leading to **functional household**

tap connections (FHTCs) to every rural household.

- The **willingness of the community**, reflected through Gram Sabha resolution and community contribution, will be the foremost criterion for planning of water supply systems in villages.

Components Under Jal Jeevan Mission

- Development of **in-village piped water supply infrastructure** to provide tap water connection to every rural household.
- Development of **reliable drinking water sources** and augmentation of existing sources to provide long-term sustainability of the water supply system.
- Wherever necessary, **bulk water transfer, treatment plants** and distribution network to cater to every rural household.
- **Retrofitting** of completed and ongoing schemes to provide FHTCs at minimum service level of 55 lpcd.
- **Support activities**-HRD, training, development of utilities, water quality laboratories, water quality testing & surveillance, R&D, knowledge centre, capacity building of communities.