**Reduction of non-revenue water, Israel**

Proposed in 1999

**Background**

Israel is characterized by desert and semi-desert climatic conditions. Its pioneers set out to make the desert bloom and succeeded. The average natural supply is 1,249 MCM/year. In recent years, the average natural supply has fallen to 1,155 MCM/year, which is 9 per cent below the long-term average.

**Aim**

Israel’s Institutional Framework for Water Governance (laid in 1998) stipulates that all water resources are the property of the public. There is no private ownership of water resources in Israel and virtually all water consumption is metered.
### Approach

Conveyance losses in Israel are minimized by using two policies. The first is the mandatory provision of using a metered system that immediately detects leakage. The existing manually read meters are being replaced with automated meter reading (AMR), expected to be complete by 2018. The second is pressure management by reducing pressure to levels as low as 3 to 3.5 atmospheres. The national metering system enables estimation of water losses via pipe leakages, thefts, faulty meters, etc.

### Outcome

A nation-wide piping system is used for water conveyance and approximately 10–12 per cent of the water is lost in distribution, which is much lower than that in developing countries such as India. Israel has forged the standard for wastewater recycling. Eighty per cent of its wastewater is treated and reused.

### Additional information: