

# WANTED

A comprehensive policy on industrial water use

## Regulation and Economic Instruments

We demand these should be uniformly applicable to all industries

- **Withdraw water from downstream of wastewater discharge:**  
We force industry to clean water before discharge
- **Specific load-based effluent standards:** Should replace existing concentration-based effluent standards. This will encourage industry to save water, and reduce effluent dilution with freshwater
- **Total load-based effluent standards:** Control total pollution discharge from an industry. These standards must be media specific, area specific and industry specific
- **Total freshwater withdrawal quota:** Should be fixed for all industries in a given watershed. Industries allowed to withdraw only a specific amount
- **Mandatory water recycling percentage:** Specify proportion of process water recycled out of the gross water consumed.
- **Restriction on source utilisation:** In areas where groundwater levels are low, industries should not be allowed to withdraw groundwater.
- **Mandatory rainwater harvesting:** make companies meet most of their water requirement through rainwater harvesting.
- **Pricing water:** Determine where water is used by industry. Price should be highest for water that can be easily re-cycled. Increase unit price with increasing use. Charge for groundwater use.
- **Introduce pollution charges:** Use 'polluter pays principle' to control pollutants of major concern. Calculate charges as a function of pollution. Should be high enough to provide incentive to reduce pollution
- **Penalty for non-compliance:** Should be stiff, based on environmental damage caused.