According to the "Overall Water Management Index" released by the NITI Aayog last year, 60 crore people in the country are currently suffering from water scarcity. Moreover, about 25 lakh people die every year due to lack of availability of fresh water. In view of the water crisis, the government has launched its ambitious plan “Jal Shakti Abhiyan”. The scheme “Jal Shakti Abhiyan” with the theme, “Sanchay Jal Behtar Kal”, has commenced from 1st July 2019.

The Jal Shakti Abhiyan is aimed to accelerate water harvesting, conservation and bore well recharge activities in 256 water-stressed districts.

The campaign is being coordinated by central IAS officers of Joint or Additional Secretary-rank level, and celebrities to spread the awareness through TV, radio, print, local and social media.

AICTE has mapped more than 40000 engineering students with the District administration so that these students can work under JAL Shakti Abhiyan activities in their respective blocks. Most of the student participation is from the state of Tamil Nadu which is most hit due to present water crises.

The PSAs office in close coordination with the ACTE is mobilising 40,000 students referred to as Jal Vigyan Swayamsevaks from around the country in order to support the officials visiting their designated blocks. The students play key role in supporting teams in data collection for planning, triangulating data and findings and supporting research and development efforts for future interventions.

AICTE has circulated SOP/student instruction manual which can be used by the students as guidelines for ground work.

On 22nd July a national level Jal Divas was celebrated and more than 25000 engineering students participated in different activities of the development and awareness of water safety and security.

Best Performing Institutions were awarded by AICTE for their contributions.

***End***