

BOOK REVIEW

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Publisher: Global Water Partnership & Jalshrot Vikas Sanstha;
Kathmandu, Nepal.

Global Water Partnership, Nepal /Jalshrot Vikas Sanstha (GWP/JVS) has published three booklets related with water resources. They are:-

- 1. Our Rights and Duties in Water resources**, authored by Mr. Surya Nath Upadhyay and Mr. Din Mani Pokharel, 27 pp., Price Rs. 100/-, written in Nepali language.
- 2. Questions on Water?**, by Mr. Surya Nath Upadhyay, 40 pp., Rs 100/- written in Nepali language
- 3. Compendium of Law Related to Conservation and Utilization of Water Resources in Nepal**, compiled by Mr. Prakash Gaudel, 88 pp., Price Rs. 150/- written in English language.

All the booklets are written by experienced professionals. Mr. Surya Nath Upadhyay is a prominent person with more than three decades of experiences and expertise in the sector of water resources. In all the three booklets the subjects including associated legal matters are dealt in depth in a simple, to the point and understandable manner. The first two books are written in simple Nepali language that can be understood by common people, students etc. All the three books are highly useful even for water professionals as a reference materials and also for developers of water resource, hydropower, enthusiasts of water resources of Nepal. In fact every water resource professional should have a copy of these booklets.

Our Rights and Duties in Water Resources

This booklet starts with very basics on water availability in Nepal, existing water use, possibilities, basics on water law, universal accepted law/ theories on water etc. It answers such questions as who owns water/ water resources, priority of water uses, dispute resolution, penalty clauses, ILO 169, laws related to the sectoral use of water etc. It is required to implement the water resources projects for the benefits of the developers and also the affected people in a sustainable manner with justified compensation to the affected people. Instead of only unclear theoretical knowledge, trying to be known in the media, all the related actions need to be based on the ground reality. This booklet has clarified the Rights and duties of the citizens regarding the water resources of the country.

Question on Water?

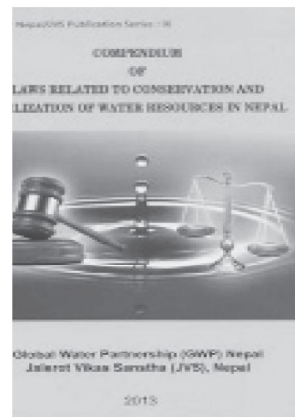
The material in this small booklet is divided in the following sub-heads.

1. Basics question on water (water resources);
2. Question on rights over water;
3. Question on use of water;

4. Question related with international cooperation; and
5. Question on different uses of water.

In Nepal, there usually happens dispute on the ownership/ use of the source of drinking water. It is necessary to avoid the disputes and arbitrate, if necessary. This booklet has

tried to answer common queries on water use, ownership etc. As Nepal is poised to go to federalism, many people wonder about the jurisdiction of the States on the water resources. The author has rightly pointed out the far sighted provision that all water is owned by the State. Except domestic and agricultural use, one requires a permit to use



for commercial purposes. The mentioned booklet has presented the complicated issues on water resources into a simple understandable manner to the common people also. Further, it has explored on the international cooperation also.

Compendium of Law Related to Conservation and Utilization of Water Resources in Nepal.

This booklet is the collection of the relevant laws and regulations regarding water resources. It is in English language. The objective of the book is to explain the fundamental legal tools that govern the overall water resources management in the country. Each Chapter in the beginning contains a summary and then list out relevant provisions. This book has rightly mentioned that it is intended for policy makers, development workers, students and anybody who is interested in understanding the legal aspect of water management in Nepal. It has five chapters as follows;

- **Chapter 1.** Basic Legislations: Water Resources Act, 1992, and Water Resources Regulations, 1993.
- **Chapter 2.** Conservation Related Legislations: It has listed relevant provisions of 18 Acts and Regulations.
- **Chapter 3.** Use Related Legislations: It has listed 11 Acts and Regulations.
- **Chapter 4.** Allocation and Distribution Related Legislation: It has listed four Acts and Legislations.
- **Chapter 5.** Disputes Settlement Related Legislations: It has listed three Acts and Rules.

GWP Nepal/JVS has done a great job in bringing out these three booklets.