

**Interactive Dialogue with Special Rapporteur on water and Sanitation
(15th September): Justice Mahesh Mittal Kumar**

Madam President !

Water is a life sustaining resource. Very little quantity of potable water is available on the planet earth. For various reasons, there is utmost need to prioritize the use of water and manage its resources in a sustainable manner to meet the present demand and leave for future generations.

NHRC shares the view of Special Rapporteur that there is dire need for democratic governance of water to ensure human rights to safe water and sanitation. We must uphold doctrine of public trust and sustainability. The Supreme Court of India in its various judgments has held that the right to water is a fundamental right and therefore, State must ensure access to potable water to everyone.

The fast global warming and Covid-19 Pandemic calls for global cooperation through multilateral deliberations to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and address the global water crisis as rightly asserted by Special Rapporteur in the Plan.

Thankyou