



Water Management Policy (For Internal Circulation Only)

CORPORATE OFFICE:

Vakrangee Corporate House

Plot No. 93, Road No. 16, M.I.D.C., Marol, Andheri (East), Mumbai – 400093, Maharashtra

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1. Purpose of Water Management Policy

Water is the basic amenity for domestic, agricultural, and industrial use. As a responsible corporate citizen, Vakrangee is committed to protecting and conserving water resources in its business operations through efficient water management practices, leveraging technology to reduce water consumption and governance systems, leading towards effective water stewardship. Vakrangee is committed towards responsible and sustainable business growth and understands impacts of water scarcity, water stress and water risks arising out of climate change on our business and communities.

We have taken Long term roadmap targets to reduce our water footprint, increase water efficiency and reuse waste-water. We believe in the sustainable management of water resources across our Business operations. We are focused on increasing our understanding of water-related risks, setting meaningful goals, improving our water efficiency, and advancing innovative solutions to water challenges.

We make our efforts transparent by disclosing our water footprints, our water-related risks and governance of water through our Annual Integrated reports based on GRI standards. We also collaborate with our key vendors and suppliers on Water stewardship practices. Vakrangee complies to international standards to ensure optimum water usage and conservation of water resources.

This Water Management Policy is aligned with the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Particularly, it contributes to achieve SDG 6: “Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all”, and SDG 12: “Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns”.

2. Water Management Policy Statement

Vakrangee proactively addresses water sustainability issues by implementing this Water Management Policy, which will serve as a directive for establishing Water Management strategies, systems, processes and practices with respect to:

- Complying with legal requirements,
- Aligning with public policy initiatives like SDGs (Sustainable Development Goal).
- Acknowledging human rights on water and sanitation.
- Minimizing water footprint
- Maintaining desired water quality during procurement, processing, consumption. and discharges
- Report water performance to all stakeholders
- Co-create Solutions to reduce water footprints

Specific objectives and targets are set for the Water Management program. The objectives of our Water Management program are increasing efficiency, responsible sourcing and becoming water

positive. Our policy also aims at the basic Human Right of ensuring Safe potable water and water for sanitation for all.

The 4 'R's namely Reduce, Recover, Recycle and Reuse shall remain the pillars for water conservation and water management enabling circular economy while carrying out our core business.

Adopting sustainable practices in our business & creating a value for all our stakeholders through the optimal management of the water resources, ensuring water security and regulatory compliance through the effective use of knowledge and innovative technology.

To achieve this, we shall endeavor to :

- Minimize the impact on water resources from Business operations by decreasing water use, effective management & no wastewater discharge.
- Share and promote water stewardship practices like rainwater harvesting, wastewater recycling and groundwater recharging.
- Benchmarking & setting targets to reduce water footprint.
- Ensure access to clean & safe water for all our employees.
- Engage with our stakeholders and communities to increase their awareness on the responsible use of water and involve them in protection/regeneration of water resources.
- Collaborating with policy makers & NGO's to promote watershed management.
- Contribute to the development of water standards and policies, locally in partnership with key stakeholders.

3. Policy Implementation

3.1. Stakeholder Engagement

Vakrangee identifies internal and external stakeholders (such as Employees, Franchisees, suppliers, vendors, media, community, respective State Governments)

Vakrangee lists their water-related expectations, prioritize and identify the areas which need action and then establish phase-wise goals and targets.

Required technological support that promote water sustainability are sought, by collaborating with:

- Peer group/internal expertise along with in-house Technology Team.
- International and national research institutes.
- ATM Equipment manufacturers and suppliers.
- Align with public and private sector initiatives
- India Water Tool
- Ecolab's Water Risk Monetizer Tool

We communicate key “water messages” to all stakeholders to promote awareness on water sustainability issues and enforce timely and informed decisions.

We recognise the value of having access to clean, safe water, lacking in several rural areas of India. Every Vakrangee Kendra has a water cooler setup that provides individuals with free drinking water. Access to clean, safe water is made possible through the extensive network of Next-Gen Vakrangee Kendras. We are building clean water drinking facilities in rural places that can be accessed at any time for free because roughly 84% of Next-Gen Vakrangee Kendras are concentrated in tier IV, tier V and tier VI cities.

We encourage our suppliers to improve their water conservation efforts, tracking and monitoring water consumption and have recycling practices to enable circular economy, through our sustainable supply chain assessments. We tie up with various NGOs to conduct Green initiatives and water- saving programs.

The primary water usage is for our employees and operations which include water for drinking, in cafeterias, washrooms, landscaping, adiabatic cooling and for infrastructure and equipment. We ensure appropriate access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene through implementing WASH tool in our operations. We are focusing on water stewardship through conserving water, reducing freshwater withdrawal by recycling wastewater through Sewage Treatment Plants, ground recharging through rainwater harvesting, installing water sensors and restrictors to increase water usage efficiency.

3.2. Water Management System

Vakrangee has a robust Water Management System to optimize specific water consumption at Vakrangee HO premises.

The Water Management System shall at minimum ensure:

- Enable water quality checks at every point of use, with zero deviation towards detrimental effects. Effective equipment used for treating and distributing water.
- Periodically review the quality and availability of water – from traditional and non-traditional resources – to ensure that Vakrangee water supply requirements are met in the short, medium and long term.
- Right quality of water all the time at every point of the operation.
- Measure and track water consumption vis-à-vis Industry standards for optimization.
- Monitor, track, asses monthly/annual water consumption and make strategies to Recover, Reduce, Recycle and Reuse the wastewater
- Adoption of latest and efficient technologies to reduce water footprints achieve the desired results

- Water from a public water system shall meet National Primary Drinking Water Regulations and state drinking water quality standards
- Water from a nonpublic water system shall meet state drinking water quality standards
- Performing periodic awareness training for employees to conserve water. Compliance and Assurance

4. Employee & Franchisee Engagement

At Vakrangee, specialized trainings and awareness programs are provided to focus groups at corporate levels to implement the policy and meet its objectives. We engage in a broad range of programmes, both, within the company and franchisee network like recycling wastewater, use of water efficient fixtures, rainwater harvesting and Participative Ground Water Management.

The engagement initiatives include:

- Providing training on water related awareness/sensitization for all employees, franchisees and allied groups.
- Conducting campaigns and rally to promote Water conservation within employees, franchisees, value chain and local community
- Subscribing and disseminating water-related study reports, researches, findings, innovations through different media to all employees.
- Setting a water division as Water Stewardship Month to engage employees on water conservation and efficiency issues.
- Conducting WASH tool survey through our associates highlighting awareness on water conservation; improve access to water and sanitation and advocate water stewardship.

5. Governance & Reporting Structure

The responsibility of Water Management Policy lies with the GHG Reduction committee. The GHG Reduction committee regularly discuss and identify the various water management related Issues, initiatives, monitor & measures those initiatives of the company from time to time. The GHG Reduction committee directly reports to the Board ESG Committee.

The Dedicated Board ESG committee along with assistance of Board Risk Management Committee and GHG reduction Committee also reviews the adequacy of Management's approach in the identification and management of environmental risks and opportunities, including water-related issues.

The Board ESG Committee will work with all the other Board Committees to assist the Board in fulfilling its responsibilities. The objective of the Committee is to consider the material environmental, social and governance issues relevant to the Company's business activities and support the Company in maintaining its position as a global leader in ESG performance.

6. Long Term Targets

While water is one of the most essential resources for life on earth, 7% of the Indian population or 9.1 crore people, are leading their life without basic water supply³. The availability of clean water is of key importance not only for human consumption, but also extremely important for sanitation, agriculture, domestic and industrial use. Lack of access to clean water can stunt industrial growth, and it is important to take steps to minimise water wastage and recycle water, wherever possible. Water is not a direct input for Vakrangee's business operations. However, it is required for employee, franchisee and customer consumption, cleaning operations and toilet use.

Vakrangee has installed recycling facilities at office to reduce freshwater consumption. The Company targets to improve water efficiency (fresh water use per employee) by 5% every year on year.

Vakrangee to reduce absolute water consumption in Offices by 30% by FY 2025. Vakrangee is committed to improving the environmental performance of its operations and plans to decrease water consumption by 30 percent to 2025. The target is connected to our everyday actions.

Vakrangee actively trains its employees, Franchisee, invests in water efficiency actions, supports local community projects and enhances supply chain management to reduce water consumption and improve water discharge.

Efficient water management also plays a key role and Vakrangee's comprehensive water management solutions include Technology Innovation, process optimization, process evaluation and feasibility studies for lowering fresh water consumption in business operations.

7. Our Key Initiatives:

The Company continues its green endeavors of saving paper and water through initiatives such as e-KYC, interoperability, and real-time transactions. Furthermore, we use advanced features that are environment-friendly, such as paperless banking, real-time banking, and biometric evaluation. Being digital and paperless in nature, our Kendras helped in huge savings of Water consumption. We have adopted 'Go Green' initiatives for our ATM services, whereby ATM transactions do not generate printed receipts. The transaction acknowledgments are sent via SMS. We are working towards achieving environmentally sound management of paper and water consumption through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse, in order to minimize their adverse impacts on the environment.

Vakrangee continues to encourage shareholders to opt for electronic copies of the annual report, instead of physical copies. During the year FY2020-21, FY2021-22 & FY2021-22, more than 85% of the shareholders opted for electronic copies thereby resulting into significant amount of paper savings and significant savings in water consumption.

In 2022-23, through our paperless ATMs, Banking transactions and Digital Annual Report initiatives, we collectively saved 529.68 metric tonnes of A4 size papers. Also, in FY 2021-22 we collectively saved 209.19 metric tonnes and in FY 2020-21, we collectively saved 199.36 metric tonnes of A4 size papers through our paperless ATMs and banking transactions initiative.

Sr. No.	Particulars	Fresh Water saved (in gallons)			
		FY2019-20	FY2020-21	FY2021-22	FY2022-23
1	Water saved from Banking Services	71,60,000	47,10,000	42,20,000	36,40,000
2	Water saved from ATM Services	11,50,000	10,70,000	13,90,000	13,30,000
3	Water saved from Digital Annual Report	35,00,000	47,00,000	58,50,000	81,60,000

7.1. Our Initiatives at our Corporate Office

- **Water Re-Use points:**

We have water re-use points at our Head Office thus helping in conservation of water

- **Waste recycling:**

We are working towards achieving environmentally sound management of paper through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse, in order to minimize their adverse impacts on the environment.

- **Motion Sensor Water Faucets**

In our Corporate office, we have installed new motion sensor water faucets and urinals in the restrooms.

- **Clean Water and Sanitation**

We have an arrangement of a water cooler providing drinking water facilities to people, which is free of cost. Since more than 82% of our Kendras are centred in Tier IV, Tier V and Tier VI cities, we are thus creating clean water drinking facilities in remote areas.

- **Rain Water Harvesting**

Facilitate water conservation by reducing water consumption at the plants and taking up rainwater harvesting projects.



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