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## **STATEMENT**

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- Water Action Agenda and International Decade for Action on Water for Sustainable Development (2018-2028) are two milestones of the forthcoming UN 2023 Water Conference in order to realize the commitment towards SDG6 by 2030.
- Scaling up of "Right to Children" under the preview of Right To Education (RTE) Act in India that ensure all schools must have safe and adequate drinking water and sanitation facilities including separate toilets for boys and girls; and facilities for hygiene including MHM for girls.
- Scaling-up of WASH in Schools: WASH in Schools (WinS) programme have profound impact on the learning the ability of children, especially for girls. Girls remain vulnerable to dropping out of schools and reluctant to go to schools due to lack of appropriate toilet and handwashing facilities. WASH in Schools (WinS) initiative in India reported to increase girls participation, develops positive hygiene behaviors, offers the opportunity to translates good practices in their families as well as in the community. It was further noted that children are found to be powerful agents of change not only in their homes but also in their community as well. Children act as messengers of "good hygiene practices" in their society to a great extent.

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