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FIRST SEAWATER DESALINATION PLANT IN JAFFNA, SRI LANKA

SUEZ WINS THE DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION CONTRACT

➤ €60 MILLION IN TOTAL REVENUES

The National Water Supply and Drainage Board (NWSDB) of Sri Lanka has awarded SUEZ with a new contract to design, build and operate the first-ever desalination plant through sea water reverse osmosis in Jaffna, the capital city of the Northern Province of the country. With a capacity of 24,000 m³, the facility, partly financed by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), will be designed-built over a period of two and half years, and thereafter operated and maintained by SUEZ for seven years. The plant will provide safe drinking water to 300,000 people of the city of Jaffna and its surrounding urban and rural areas.

The project is part of the Jaffna-Kilinochchi Water Supply and Sanitation Program developed by the Government of Sri Lanka. It aims to enhance the quantity of water available in water-scarce areas and to provide safe drinking water to the people of Jaffna, one of the most densely populated cities in Sri Lanka. With limited surface water sources and deterioration of groundwater over time due to the over-extraction of water for agricultural irrigation and the use of chemicals and pesticides, it has become necessary to find an alternative source of water. Jaffna's proximity to the sea makes a desalination plant the most appropriate response to cater to the drinking water requirement of its growing population and the region's sustainable development.

Pioneer of the reverse osmosis desalination technology, SUEZ designs and develops innovative technologies to produce drinking water from saltwater in a sustainable manner while reducing overall operational costs and environmental impacts. The construction of the desalination plant includes intake pipelines and transmission lines, a drinking water pumping station and a reservoir of 10,000 m³ of water per day. The plant further plans a hydraulic capacity of 48,000 m³ of water per day to cater to future expansion.

"SUEZ's partner-based culture enables us to cultivate our clients' trust and to develop solutions adapted to their requirements and challenges. In Jaffna, we will add value by creating differentiation through technology based on 50 years of experience and innovation in desalination. In late 2020, despite the challenging pandemic situation, SUEZ ensured on time the completion of the 180,000 m³ water treatment plant at Kelani Right Bank in Colombo. With this new contract in Sri Lanka, we reinforce our relations with NWSDB and our local anchoring in a dynamic region, in line with the objective of selective growth for SUEZ 2030 strategic plan." said **Ana Giros, Senior Executive Vice President of SUEZ in charge of International.**



Future seawater desalination plant in Jaffna, Sri Lanka / Credits: SUEZ

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About SUEZ in Sri Lanka:

The Group has been present in Sri Lanka for more than 50 years. It has designed and built 20 water treatment plants, contributing to the production of 800 million litres of drinking water to over 7.5 million people every day. SUEZ also offers contract management services for water distribution improvement around the capital city of Colombo. By its well-established expertise, SUEZ is recognised as a trusted partner for Sri Lankan authorities. SUEZ employs over 100 professionals in the country.

About SUEZ

Since the end of the 19th century, SUEZ has built expertise aimed at helping people to constantly improve their quality of life by protecting their health and supporting economic growth. With an active presence on five continents, SUEZ and its 90,000 employees strive to preserve our environment's natural capital: water, soil, and air. SUEZ provides innovative and resilient solutions in water management, waste recovery, site remediation and air treatment, optimizing municipalities' and industries' resource management through "smart" cities and improving their environmental and economic performance. The Group delivers sanitation services to 64 million people and produces 7.1 billion m3 of drinking water. SUEZ is also a contributor to economic growth, with more than 200,000 jobs created directly and indirectly on an annual basis, and a provider of new resources, with 4.2 million tons of secondary raw materials produced. By 2030, the Group is targeting 100% sustainable solutions, with a positive impact on our environment, health and climate. SUEZ generated total revenue of €17,2 billion in 2020.

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