News: The Centre has released the Water Quality Report. The report is in line with the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) that was launched to provide clean and safe drinking water to all by 2024.

Prelims focus: Key highlights of the report, Jal Jeevan Mission

Mains focus: India’s water crisis and methods to address it

Context: In order to ensure that clean and safe drinking water is provided to all, Department of Consumer Affairs decided to undertake a study through the Bureau of India Standards (BIS) on the quality of piped drinking water being supplied in the country and also rank the States, Smart Cities and even Districts based on the quality of tap water.

Tests Conducted

Tests were conducted on various parameters such as Organoleptic and Physical Tests, Chemical test, Toxic substances and Bacteriological tests in the first stage.

Performance of cities:

1. In Delhi, all the samples drawn from various places did not comply with the requirements of the Indian Standard& failed on several parameters.
2. All the 10 samples drawn from Mumbai were found to comply with the requirements.

Significance:

- All should get clean drinking water and that is the objective of this activity.
- State Governments are encouraged to ensure quality potable tap water to all citizens.

Way ahead:

The Union Government wants to make BIS Standards mandatory for Tap Water so as to ensure quality drinking water for all households.