

**Source : The Hindu      Date : 22.06.2009**

## **Water woes**

When we were paying Rs. 1,200 a year to the Salem Municipal Corporation as water tax, we were able to get drinking water to some extent.

But today, paying a higher rate of Rs.1,800 a year and not getting adequate water supply in almost all the municipal wards is really very pathetic.

The duration in supplying water – once a week or once in ten days – is too short.

Many times we are forced to buy water from outside agencies.

It may not be possible for the middle class and lower income groups to buy water.

Almost daily we come across road blockades by residents of one part of the city or the other. Another main reason for the inadequate supply of water is the illegal drawing of water by certain anti-social elements directly from the municipal corporation pipes, using a motor pump set.

Many of them may not know that it is a criminal offence and their water connection may be disconnected permanently.

Surprise checks combined with a strict and unbiased action by the Corporation authorities would go a long way in solving the drinking water shortage in the city.

