

F.No.11011/7/2011-DWS (Coordn.)
Government of India
M/O Drinking Water & Sanitation

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9th Floor, Paryavarn Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodi Road,
New Delhi-110003

Dated the 1th September, 2012

Subject:- Minutes of Consultative Committee Meeting held on 8th August, 2012

The undersigned is directed to forward herewith minutes of the meeting of Consultative Committee of Rural Development, on the subject of Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation, held on 8th August, 2012, chaired by the Hon'ble Minister (RD & DWS).


(Mohan Lal)

Under Secretary to Government of India

To:

PS to Minister of DWS & RD, PS to MOS(RD-PJ), PPS to Secretary (DWS), PPS to Secy(RD), PPS to Secy(LR) PS to AS&FA, PPS to AS(RD), PS to AS(LR) PS to JS(W), PS to JS(Sanitation), PS to JS(A), PS to JS(SA), PS to JS (LR)

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to :-

Addnl. Adv.(DC), Director(Water) , DS(WQ), DS (Admn.), DS (Fin.), Dy. Adv.(DR),
US(Water), US(CRSP), US(WQ)

Copy also to :

Director (NIC) for uploading on Ministry's website

Minutes of the Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation held on 8.8.2012.

The meeting of Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation was held on 8.8.2012 under the Chairmanship of **Shri Jairam Ramesh**, Hon'ble Minister of Rural Development and Drinking Water and Sanitation. Hon'ble Minister of State for Rural Development, Shri Pradeep Jain "Aditya" also attended the meeting. The meeting was also attended by the Secretary of the Ministry, Joint Secretaries, Deputy Secretaries and Joint Secretaries of the Ministry of Rural Development. Information regarding drinking water and sanitation was provided to the Hon'ble Members (MPs). The Members of the above Committee include Ms. Annu Tandon, Shri Bhupendra Singh, Sardarni Harsimrat Kaur Badal, Shri Kamal Kishore, Shri Manikrao H. Gavit, Shri Narayan Singh Amlabe, Dr. Ram Shankar, Shri Sanjay Dhotre and Dr. Vijaylaxmi Sadho who attended the meeting, expressed their views and drew the attention of Hon'ble Minister, RD and DWS to the problems in their constituencies involving the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, like supply of potable drinking water, disposal of sewerage, monitoring of drinking water programme, usage of MPLADS, installation of handpumps, construction of toilets, monitoring of funds to be spent on the projects etc. Details of the discussions are given below:-

At the start of the meeting, Hon'ble Minister welcomed the Hon'ble MPs and informed them about the efforts being made by the Ministry in regard to providing potable and safe drinking water and construction of toilets under Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA). He said that as per tests by the experts there are problems of Arsenic, Uranium, Fluoride in drinking water in the States of Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and other States and this Ministry is working constantly to solve the problems. Ministry had prescribed norms for drinking water of 40 LPC per day previously and there is a proposal to increase this norm to 55 LPCD in the 12th five year plan, with additional water to be provided for cattle.

Hon'ble Minister said that there has been considerable demand for handpumps from UP. Under the scheme, Central Government provides funds to State Governments

and a large amount of funds is spent on setting up of handpumps, while instead of handpumps, piped drinking water supply is more effective and not much attention is given towards quality of Drinking Water.

Chairman instructed to supply soft copies of Hydro - geomorphological (HGM) maps to Hon'ble Members of the Committee. Ms. Annu Tandon pointed out that water in Unnao of UP has been contaminated due to leather factories situated there. Handpumps are installed there but nothing is spent on their quality.

Dr. Ramshankar said that there is a big problem of drinking water in his constituency and demanded to install handpumps there. He said that there are serious problems of salinity and fluoride in ground water in the districts of Mathura, Agra, and Etah. He suggested to strength the vigilance and monitoring systems.

Hon'ble Minister introduced the subject of sanitation and Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA) and said that out of 2.40 lakh Gram Panchayats (GPs), 28,000 Gram Panchayats have been awarded Nirmal Gram Puraskar (NGP) during the last 7-8 years. The Grams Panchayats which are awarded Nirmal Gram Puraskar do not remain Nirmal Grams after 2-3 years. Sikkim became the first fully Nirmal State in our Country and Kerala will be the second one. Himachal Pradesh will become a Nirmal State by March -April 2013, and it is expected that in March 2014, Haryana will also become a Nirmal State also. Out of 28,000 Gram Panchayats in Maharashtra, 9,500 Gram Panchayats have become Nirmal Grams. The Hon'ble Minister expressed hope that in the next 3-4 years Maharashtra will be a Nirmal State. It is our endeavor to make all the Gram Panchayats as Nirmal Grams which is our target also.

He gave instructions to the Ministry that a list of the targeted Gram Panchayats of this year under Nirmal Gram Puraskar may be provided to the Hon'ble Members .

Shri Manikrao H. Gavit said that Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) is a scheme of the Ministry of Rural Development and provision of toilets should be included there under. He also asked as to what is the percentage of the funds which is given to the State Governments under Drinking Water Programmes and information should be

provided to them. He suggested that provision of drinking water works should be made under MGNREGA.

Shri Sanjay Dhotrey said that the funds to be released under drinking water programme are misused. After taking up the work to set up drinking water plants, work is left incomplete and due to this, funds are misused and a number of times funds taken for setting up of drinking water schemes are used on other works and no proper enquiry is done because the Member Secretary of Vigilance and Monitoring Committee is the CEO of ZP and implementation work is also done by him. Therefore, Vigilance and Monitoring is not done properly and funds are misused. Therefore, charge of Member-Secretary, Vigilance and Monitoring Committee should be given to District Magistrate, so that proper monitoring of this may be done.

Ms. Annu Tandon wanted to know, how she could contribute in providing drinking water to her constituency. She desired to know how much funds have been released by the Central Government for drinking water and sanitation in Unao district and how much has been released to the district out of Action Plan of the Ministry.

Shri Bhupendra Singh said that Hon'ble MPs are ignored when funds are released to States by the Centre because States always give priority on the proposals of their MLAs. Why the funds of Water Supply are not given to Panchayat directly? More funds is wasted on such works when got done at Central level. Therefore, works should be completed at the Panchayat level and Panchayat should be made as an Agency. Generators should be installed in Panchayats so that water supply could be sustained without interruption.

He said that a number of handpumps become inoperative, so multi village rural piped water supplies should be included under Bundelkhand Package.

Shri Kamal Kishore said that Hon'ble MPs should be given permission to select spots to install 1,000 handpumps.

Sardarni Harsimrat Kaur Badal said that Panchayats have no income source and due to this they are unable to look after the drinking water schemes and these do not function for extended periods. Even when there is provision of drinking water to a village it does not reach there due to illegal water connections. Thus, water distribution is not done properly and the funds to be received are not sufficient due to increasing population. It should be received separately for looking after the drinking water schemes. There should be flexibility in funds to be spent on construction of toilets in Punjab because material in Punjab is costly and due to this problems are faced in construction of toilets. She mentioned that some of the villages have provided their contributions for Rural Drinking Water Supply projects in Punjab but not included for World Bank Assistance. This issue should be raised with World Bank.

Dr. Vijaylaxmi Sadho said that the case regarding funds for persons under Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan should be got examined whether the actual beneficiaries are getting funds or not because Vigilance and Monitoring Committee is not effective. In Madhya Pradesh, handpumps are not working properly due to lowering water levels. Thus, what is the provision for drinking water there, as the SC/ST community has to bring drinking water from a distance of 2-4 Kms. The condition of drinking water in Madhya Pradesh on ground level is not satisfactory and the financial assistance is not reaching the actual beneficiaries. There is a need of percolation tanks and check dams for recharging bore-wells. She also said that Panchayats are not getting funds for operation and maintenance of schemes because funds are used somewhere else.

Shri Narayan Amlabe, extending thanks for increase of the norm of drinking water from 40 LPC per day to 55 LPC in the current 5 year plan, said that handpumps in Madhya Pradesh are no more effective due to constantly lowering ground water levels. So, a new effective scheme may be implemented in place of existing scheme. After seeing the impact of special assistance for (JE) (Japanese Encephalitis) / AES(Acute Encephalitis Syndrome) affected 60 Districts, additional funds should be released. A village should be treated as Nirmal Gram under Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA) when all households are covered with toilets. Further, more

villages should be included under Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA) during the year in Madhya Pradesh instead of existing 1,400 Gram Panchayats.

Concluding the meeting, Chairman said that the focus of the Ministry should be to ensure better monitoring system. District - wise information regarding projects should be provided to Hon'ble Members. Hon'ble Chairman extended thanks to all the Hon'ble Members for participating in the meeting and for giving their valuable suggestions, and assured that all the suggestions given by them will be considered by the Ministry.

Meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.