F. No. W-11011/14/2019 – Water I
Government of India
Ministry of Jal Shakti
Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation

4th Floor, Pt. Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi,
Dated the 25th October, 2019

Office Order

Subject: JJM – Setting up of Task Force to review implementation of rural water supply programmes – regarding.

Government of India started assisting states since 1972 through centrally sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) to enable people living in rural areas to have access to potable drinking water. In 2009, ARWSP was restructured and renamed as National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) with a vision to provide safe and adequate drinking water to all in rural areas with focus to provide access to safe/ potable drinking water source at an accessible distance from households. In 2017, NRDWP was restructured to make it more result-oriented, and performance based incentives were brought in to instill competition among States. In these years, in various states/ UTs, rural water supply programmes have been taken up and there are important lessons to be learnt.

2. At present, out of the total 17.25 lakh rural habitations in the country, people living in about 81% of the habitations have access to at least 40 litres of potable water per person per day. However the sector faces huge problem of sustainability of sources and system due to a number of reasons including poor operation and maintenance, and depleting ground water.

3. Keeping in view the rising aspirations of people to have drinking water supply through piped water connection to their households, Government of India has launched Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) with aim to provide ‘Functional Household Tap Connection’ (FHTC) to every rural household by the year 2024. Under the JJM, the goal is to enable every rural household to have potable drinking water of prescribed quality in adequate quantity on regular basis.

4. As reported, out of 17.88 crore rural households, about 3.28 crore households have piped water connection. Thus about 14.60 crore rural households are to be provided with FHTCs in a span of four and half years. This calls for developing institutional mechanisms and putting in place management systems to manage water supply sources and systems on long-term basis to achieve drinking water security.

5. In view of this, it has been decided to constitute a task force to analyse various drinking water programmes taken up by various states and UTs so far with a view to ascertain whether the substantial investments on these programmes have delivered satisfactory results. The learning from the drinking water supply programmes implemented across the country will help in fine-tuning the JJM implementation strategy, which is a time-bound, mission-mode programme with a very specific outcome.

6. Keeping this in view, it has been decided to constitute the ‘Task Force’ with the following composition:
i.) Shri R. C. Panda, Former Secretary to Govt of India Chairman

ii.) Shri Sashi Shekhari, Former Secretary to Govt of India, Department of Water Resources, River Development & Garga Rejuvenation Co-Chair

iii.) Shri A. K. Jain, Former Principal Secretary, Public Health Engineering Department (PHED), Govt. of Maharashtra Member

iv.) Shri R. K. Sama, Former Project Director, WASMO, Govt of Gujarat Member

v.) Shri Rajesh Kumar, Former Director, DDWS (presently serving as Director, CVC) Member

vi.) Shri Tomo Basar, Chief Engineer, PHED, Arunachal Pradesh Member

vii.) Shri H. S. Prakash Kumar, Chief Engineer, Rural water Supply Department, Govt. of Karnataka Member

viii.) Shri Sujay Majumdar, WASH Specialist, UNICEF India Member

ix.) Shri Avinash Zutshi, WASH Specialist Member

x.) Shri Harish Kumar Hingorani, Former Chief Engineer, PHED, Chattisgarh Member

xi.) Shri D. M. Mohan, Former Chief Engineer, PH&MED, Andhra Pradesh Member

xii.) Shri Apoorva Oza, CEO, Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (India) Member

xiii.) Shri Liby Jhonson, Executive Director, Gram Vikas, Odisha Member

xiv.) Shri Nisheet Kumar, Chief, Operations, Knowledge links Member

7. The terms of reference of task force are as follows:
   i.) Assessment of performance of various rural drinking water supply programmes including externally aided projects taken up in various States, from the point of view of effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and impact;
   ii.) Analysis of drivers of success and failure in these programmes and identifying the key factors;
   iii.) Identifying Best practices in these programmes in terms of service delivery, O&M, community engagement, institutional set up, technology adopted, etc.

8. The task force will provide its report within 6 months, giving recommendations/ way forward for successful implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission to achieve the stated goal, with special emphasis on:
   i.) Service delivery i.e., ensuring household level drinking water security by providing water of prescribed quality in adequate quantity on regular basis;
   ii.) Operation & Maintenance of schemes;
   iii.) Capacity building of communities;
   iv.) Institutional arrangement for long-term sustainability; and
   v.) Development of utility.

9. If required, with the approval of Department, any official or non-official can be invited/ co-opted as a Special Invitee. The task force may also form sub-committee(s) within, to
examine theme-wise or region-wise issues. The Department will provide secretarial assistance.

10. If there is any urgent issue of importance, task force can be asked to provide interim report also.

11. The expenses towards travel including airfare and local travel along with a sitting fee of Rs. 5,000/- per sitting/ day to non-official members including non-official Special Invitees will be borne by the Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation, M/o Jal Shakti, as per existing norms.

12. This issue with the concurrence of IFD and approval of the Minister, Jal Shakti, and Government of India.

(Avinash Kumar Sinha)
Under Secretary to the Government of India
Phone: 011-24360287

To
1. Shri R.C. Panda, Former Secretary to Govt. of India, Chairman Task Force.
2. Shri Sashi Shekhar, Former Secretary to Govt. of India, DoWR, RD&GR, Co-chair of Task-Force.
3. All members of the Task Force.
4. PS to Hon’ble Minister, M/o Jal Shakti & PS to Hon’ble Minister of State, M/o Jal Shakti.
5. PPS to Secretary, DDWS & PS to AS, Water, DDWS
6. Senior Technical Director, NIC to upload the Order in the Department of Drinking water & Sanitation website under innovation link.