To
The Principal Secretary/Secretaries In-charge of
Rural Drinking Water and Sanitation
Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab,
Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu & Uttar Pradesh

Sub.: Minutes of the discussion on National Drinking Water Security Pilot Projects on 05.02.2013

Dear Sir/Madam

Please find enclosed herewith Minutes of the discussion on National Drinking Water Security Pilot Projects held on 05.02.2013 at MDWS, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (Water) for information and compliance.

Yours faithfully,

Encl.: as above

(Sujoy Mojamdar)
Director (W)

Copy to:

1. PS to JS (W) for information
2. TD (NIC) for hosting on MDWS, Web site.
Minutes of the Discussion on National Drinking Water Security Pilot Projects on 05.02.2013 chaired by JS (Water)

A discussion session was held on National Drinking Water Security Pilot Projects. The list of participants is as follows:

1. Shri T.M. Vijay Bhaskar, JS (Water)
2. Shri Sujoy Majumdar, Director (Water)
3. Ms Pratibha Mistry, World bank
4. Shri Suseel Samuel, WSP-SA
5. Sudhindra Mohan Sharma, Nodal Officer
6. Ms Saumya Chaudhary, WSP Consultant

Key points emerged during the discussions

1. Discussion on TOR for a tool kit for Village Water Security Plan- The need of contracting a consultant/organisation for developing the processes to be followed for preparing Village Water Security Plans was discussed.

2. Manuals under preparation- The manual for Water Budget Estimation has to be updated and hosted on the MDWS website, for providing assistance to the Support Organisations and State officials while conducting a water budgeting exercise. A similar manual for Sanitation has to be created by WSP for use as a reference material.

3. Feedback from the States on disbursement of funds to the Support Organisation was informed.

4. Sanitation related activities in National Drinking Water Security Pilot Project, and communication to states on this- Joint letter and guidelines have been drafted and to be issued to States.

5. Way forward-
   a. Discussion on the quality of the data collected and received from States; and what are the improvements required (if any)- to be taken up individually Block-wise if any issue arises.
   b. Discussion on an acceptable Village Water Security Plan framework for preparing Village Water Security Plan document- A sample format of Village Water Security Plan was discussed. It was suggested to incorporate certain more points for better planning and evaluation of the water security plan for the village. The included:
      i. After mentioning the Drinking water profile of the village, a separate section should be incorporated for Water Budget Estimation. This would include the methodology adopted, and a semi-annual calculation of water demand and supply.
      ii. Possible sources of funds for each activity in the Village Water Security Committee can also be listed by each village. This can include the funds that would be required for various activities like procurement of rain gauges, community sensitization, crop rotation, sustainability and O&M costs, etc.
      iii. All the documents (data formats, baseline data, household survey data, maps, etc.) shall separately be a part of the annexure; and the total Village Water Security Plan (for a village) shall not exceed more than 20-25 pages.)
c. Allocation of States/Pilot Blocks to the NRC Consultants/ Dy. Advisors (Retainers)/ Asst. Advisor (Retainer) to MDWS for monitoring Pilot Block activities. The orientation programme to be done for monitoring the Pilot Project, and allocation of States to be done for each of them.

d. An e-newsletter to be launched by MDWS on Pilot Projects. The e-newsletter is to be launched by 15.02.2013 at the MDWS website, and is to be sent individually to each official of State Government and Support Organisation who are working in the Pilot Blocks.

e. Finalising a date for a National level brainstorming workshop to discuss on the issues, challenges and necessary action points from the States, Support Organisations and MDWS. It was suggested to conduct a national review/brainstorming workshop in one of the Blocks located in North India. Kaithal Block in Haryana was finalized for the next brainstorming session tentatively during 15-17th March 2013.

f. Discussion on the appointment of GIS consultant, and PMIS – it was informed by Ms Pratibha Mistry that the position will be advertised soon.

g. Discussion on the PMIS data entry and the need for improvements – A Video-conferencing to be conducted with the State officials and the SO staff responsible for data entry at Block and District level, on the know-how and issues related to data entry at Block level. Nodal officer, and WSP consultant to co-ordinate with the NIC team for arranging the video conference.
Session-II: Orientation of the Consultants and Advisors on the Pilot projects (2:30 PM to 4:00 PM)

Key objectives:

1. To brief on the concept, methodology, implementation, and monitoring of the National Drinking Water Security Pilot Projects
2. To discuss the present status of the Pilot Project.
3. Discussions on Evaluation parameters that can be used while reviewing the Pilot Project Activities Block/GP.

Agenda:

1. Opening remarks by Director (Water)
2. Address by JS (Water)
3. Overview of National Drinking Water Security Pilot Projects, and its current status by Nodal Officer
4. Interactions