

No. W-11011/28/2022 – JJM-III-DDWS  
Government of India  
Ministry of Jal Shakti  
Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation  
National Jal Jeevan Mission

4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 'Antyodaya' Bhavan  
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,  
New Delhi – 110 003  
Date:15<sup>th</sup> November, 2023

Office Order

**Subject:** Constitution of Working group for Policy Framework for Operations & Maintenance of Rural Water Supply Schemes under Jal Jeevan Mission.

Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti in partnership with States/UTs is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) since August 2019 to provide potable tap water supply of prescribed quality and on regular basis to every rural household in the country.

2. To ensure sustainable source of drinking water, there is a need to develop policy framework for a comprehensive and sustainable approach to the operation and maintenance of rural water supply schemes, to improve the health, well-being, and economic opportunities of rural communities.

3. Keeping this in view, it has been decided to constitute a Working Group for development of Policy Framework for Operations & Maintenance of Rural Water Supply Schemes under Jal Jeevan Mission.

4. The composition of the Working Group is as under: -

1.	Additional Secretary & Mission Director, National Jal Jeevan Mission, DoDWS	Chairperson
2.	Director/Deputy Secretary (JJM-I)	Member
3.	Director/Deputy Secretary (JJM-II)	Member
4.	Director/Deputy Secretary (JJM-III)	Member
5.	Director/Deputy Secretary (JJM-IV)	Member
6.	Representative of UNICEF	Member
7.	Representative of Water Aid	Member
8.	Professor-Chair, IIM Bangalore	Member
8.	Dy Advisor, PHE, D/o Drinking Water & Sanitation	Member Secretary

\*\* Committee may co-opt representatives of few States at the level of Additional Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary/Secretary of PHE/ RWS

5. The committee will meet periodically (at least once a month) and submit the progress report to competent authority. The Chairperson of the working group may invite domain experts as Special Invitee(s) based on specific need. The Terms of Reference (ToRs) of the

Committee, are as under:

- i. Develop an O&M framework which will indicate the required institutional and regulatory mechanisms for management and governance, establish standard operating procedures and set aside financial resources to meet the operation and maintenance requirements of the water supply infrastructure as well as services to sustain the rationality of Functional Household Tap Connections through the said O&M framework;
  - ii. Establishing a comprehensive O&M policy framework document to facilitate the rural water supply department/ utility in the States/ UTs to formulate/ validate an effective, affordable, and accountable system to enhance operational efficiency across the water supply value chain, expected to ensure functional, environmental, financial, societal and institutional sustainability and provide insight for appropriate regulatory mechanisms;
  - iii. As part of financial sustainability the policy framework document would specifically provide insight on suitable mechanisms of cost recovery of O&M costs and institutionalizing it through legislation, if needed;
  - iv. O&M policy framework would provide roles and responsibilities of the State Departments on need assessment towards capacity building of practitioners for overall enhanced institutional ability; and
  - v. development of reporting and monitoring framework to measure the performance of various water utilities.
6. This is issued with the approval of competent authority.

  
15/11/23

(Manoj Kumar Jha)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

e-mail: [manojkumar.jha@nic.in](mailto:manojkumar.jha@nic.in)

**To**

1. Chairperson of the working group
2. All members of the working group
3. PS to Hon'ble Minister, Jal Shakti
4. PS to Hon'ble Minister of State, Jal Shakti
5. PPS to Secretary, DWS
6. All officers of the NJJM

**Copy to:**

1. NIC, DDWS for uploading the order on Ministry's website.