

W- 11011/2/2011/(Water II)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation

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New Delhi – 110 003  
Dated: 25.1.2012

To

Principal Secretary/Secretary,  
i/c of Rural Water Supply  
All States

**Subject: Minimising slip-backs and preventing delay in on-going works –  
Recommendations of the Public Accounts Committee in its 35<sup>th</sup> Report to  
Parliament**

I am directed to state that the Public Accounts Committee in its 35<sup>th</sup>. Report to Parliament has made certain recommendations regarding the implementation of the AWRSP/NRDWP in the country.

The recommendations concerning slip-back of habitations and preventing delay in on-going works are as under:

*“The Committee, ..., recommend that the Ministry evolve a mechanism within a time frame whereby precise data with regard to the slip-backs habitation could be obtained. The Committee should be intimated about the new mechanism evolved. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should impress upon the States that they must ensure that habitation does not slip-back further and a quarterly report of the progress in this regard should be sent to the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation.”*

*“the Committee recommend that in case of delay in completion of a project beyond the approved time limit, the cost overrun, if any, be borne by the respective State Governments. The Ministry needs to ensure the focus of every measure taken by it remains to serve the rural population/masses which had hitherto been deprived of their basic right of safe drinking water.”*

In this regard, State Departments incharge of Rural Water Supply are requested to ensure the following:

- (i) Slip-backs be absolutely minimised by preventive mechanisms, and in case where slip back still occurs, ensure that the turnaround time is minimum. To ensure this, the involvement of PRIs or the VWSCs in the O&M of drinking water supply schemes needs to be strengthened and institutionalized.
- (ii) Delay in implementation of rural water supply schemes are regularly monitored at senior levels of the State Department in-charge of Rural Water Supply. This monitoring along with an analysis for the reasons for the delay, can ensure that effective remedial action is initiated promptly, schemes are implemented swiftly, ensuring that time and cost over-runs are minimised.
- (iii) The Ministry has made provisions to capture information of both the slip back habitations as well as incomplete schemes on the IMIS. It is essential that data entry regarding the occurrence of slip back of habitations is made during the Annual data updation of habitations by the States on the IMIS. Information regarding completion of schemes is to be entered on a monthly basis on the IMIS, otherwise schemes shall be considered incomplete.

It is requested that States take action as above urgently and set up effective monitoring mechanisms at the State level immediately.

  
[Sujoy Mojumdar]  
Director