

W-11042/16/2010-WATER  
Government of India  
Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation

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9th Floor Paryavaran Bhavan,  
CGO Complex, New Delhi-110003

Dated: 19th March, 2012

28<sup>th</sup> *FA*

To,  
The Nodal officers, National Drinking Water Security Pilot Projects in  
Haryana, Karnataka, M.P., Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamilnadu, UP

Subject: National Drinking Water Security Pilot Projects

Dear Sir/Madam,

As you are aware, Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation is promoting the implementation of National Drinking Water Security Pilot Projects in over-exploited/critical blocks in your State. Your immediate attention is invited to the following:

1. **Support Organisation:** The selection of Support Organisation for the Pilot project blocks in your State is still not complete.

It is requested to expedite the identification and selection process and engage the Support Organisation as soon as possible, and ensure that they are in place, and their activities have started. The names of the staff posted by the Support organisations in the target blocks may be intimated.

It was decided in the recently held meeting of the Steering Committee that Universities/Academic institutions may not be appropriate agencies to be engaged as Support Organisations.

2. **Exposure Visits:** Exposure visits and workshops are being planned for Support organisations in first week of May. Please intimate the name of the persons nominated by the S.O. for the exposure visit after the Support Organisation has been appointed.
3. **Convergence:** Convergence of activities with MNREGA is an important component in the Pilot projects. Ministry of Rural Development, Govt of India, has advised that the funding of projects proposed to be taken up with MNREGA convergence in the Pilot Projects, have to be included in the Shelf of projects at the District Panchayat level, before 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2012 for the next years cycle.

Thus, please ensure the inclusion of the activities proposed after finalisation of Village water Security Plan appropriately in the shelf of projects of the MNREGA before 31<sup>st</sup> of July.

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4. **District and Block Core Group:** Various activities in the Drinking water Security Pilot projects shall be similar to the Watershed program. Therefore please ensure that the District Watershed Development officer is represented on the District Core group, so that get their technical support is obtained.
  5. **Krishak Vigyan Kendra:** KVK (Krishak Vigyan Kendra) in the Pilot Block/districts may be involved in the implementation of the project, and their representative may be included in the District/Block Core group.
  6. **CGWB :** Please also include CGWB scientist in-charge of the district in the District Core Group.
  7. **Timelines:** Suggested timelines for completion of various activities are given in the attached statement. You are requested to adhere to these timelines.
- \* Please intimate the actions taken on the online IMIS of the Ministry. \*

Yours faithfully,



**Sudhindra Mohan Sharma**  
Nodal officer

**National Drinking water Security Pilot Projects**  
Mobile: 09873230443, email: hydroexplore@yahoo.co.in

Copy:

1. Principal Secretaries of the concerned states.
2. Member Secretaries of the District Core Groups

encl:

## Minutes of the First Meeting of the Steering Committee on National Drinking Water Security Pilot Projects

First Meeting of the Steering Committee on National Drinking Water Security Pilot Projects chaired by Secretary, MDWS was held on 12.03.2012. List of participants is annexed.

JS(Water) gave an overview of the National Drinking Water Security Pilot Projects highlighting the core issues, and components of the projects.

Consultant (HG) NRC, the Nodal Officer for the project, briefed the Steering committee on the progress of the pilot projects in the 15 identified blocks. The progress details highlighted that

- The project has been initiated and formation of district and block core groups completed in all blocks.
- Support organizations have been finalised in Gujarat, and Andhra Pradesh. In Andhra Pradesh, the S.O.s in all the three blocks are yet to initiate their activities. Support organisation has started its activities in Kheralu block in Gujarat. Dharmapuri block in Tamil Nadu has completed the tender process for selection of Support organization. Rest of the blocks are at the level of identification of Support Organizations.
- All the blocks except Raipur (Bhilwara) in Rajasthan and Dhuri (Sangrur) in Punjab have progressed in baseline data collection.
- All the blocks except Mauranipur (Jhansi) in U.P. have held district workshops.
- Water budget trainings have started in Kheralu, District Mehasana (Guj)
- Exposure visits have been undertaken by block and PRI officers from Kheralu and Kaithal block. Exposure visits for other blocks on water budgeting and service level improvements are being planned by WSP.

Thereafter, Secretary, DWS invited comments from the Steering Committee members.

The gist of the discussion is as under:

**Overexploited Blocks:** Dr. Sushil Gupta from CGWB pointed out that some of the selected blocks had changed their status from over-exploited to critical or semi-critical stage. Consultant (HG) NRC, pointed out that in the National launch Workshop, Dr Mihir Shah, Member (RD) Planning Commission, expressed that a few blocks may also be taken for pilots which may be in critical category, so as to assess the efficacy of pilot activities over a wide spectrum. Secretary, DWS stressed that these blocks even if they are not over-exploited at present, they have not suddenly become water rich and hence can be prevented from becoming over-exploited again. Secretary, DWS opined that since most of the State Governments have gone ahead with the activities the present blocks may be continued.

**Training:** Dr. Gupta also informed that they are preparing aquifers maps and have trained a number of officers of the State Governments on sustainability structures. Secretary, DWS opined that CGWB can take up the training of field level officers posted in the Pilot Blocks, on groundwater and sustainability plan preparations and implementations.

NRSC offered to train the trainers on the use of HGM maps in the pilot blocks.

WSP informed that they are planning a capacity building exercise and exposure visits for Support Organizations. It was decided that this activity may be planned in the first week of May 2012.

**Water Quality:** It was suggested by CGWB that in these pilot blocks since there may be some areas with water quality problems they may attempt drinking water security using surface water. It was informed that States are already moving in this direction, and conjunctive use of surface, sub-surface and ground water is encouraged.

**Institutional Framework:** Dr. Savita Anand, JS(LR), suggested that the State department district officers dealing with watershed programme should be included in the District Core Group.

Mr Pandey, Additional Commissioner Ministry of Agriculture suggested that Krishak Vigyan Kendra (KVK) may be involved for various activities of pilot projects and their representative may be included in the Block Core Group.

It was decided that CGWB scientist in-charge for the particular district and K.V.K. should be included in the District Core Group.

**Data Collection:** Dr. Subramaniam, NRSC explained the use of HGM maps in preparing Drinking water security plans through case studies.

JS(Water) suggested that NRSC may be requested for watershed wise GIS based maps for the 15 pilot blocks areas on a higher resolution of 1:10000. Consultant (HG), NRC, pointed out that the block level area of interest maps should have the village boundary layer for better understanding of resources at village level. He also suggested that the maps should be available in PDF format so that the block level officers can view and use these maps with the local resources available. Dr. Subramaniam from NRSC responded by stating that soft copies and hard copies on this scale may be made available by NRSC on such scale, on request from MDWS.

**Support Organizations:** From the discussions it emerged that the role of Support Organizations is very important in development of various activities in the pilot blocks. From the review of the progress it was found that Academic institutions such as Universities have been identified by certain states as Support Organizations but it was felt they may not have the capacity for sustained work with the communities at village

level. They may be used for technical guidance. However, it may not be viable to engage Academic Institutions/ Universities as Support Organisations.

Secretary DWS directed that the States should give top priority to the identification and selection of suitable Support Organizations and this process should be completed as soon as possible so that the Support Organizations are in place to initiate their activities at the earliest, and can participate in the training and exposure visits planned by WSP in May 2012.

Secretary, DWS stressed that only NGOs with high credibility be involved as Support Organizations for better handholding, and for continuous interaction for the entire project cycle with the Gram Panchayats.

**Convergence:** Mr. D.K. Jain, JS (MNREGA) suggested that the activities to be considered for convergence under MNREGA should be registered in the shelf of projects at the district level every year before 15<sup>th</sup> of August so that the activities may be included in subsequent years action plan.

Dr. Savita Anand, JS(LR) highlighted that a very good convergence of activities has been achieved in Gujarat in Watershed Programs, and the experiences from Gujarat can be shared.

CGWB informed that they are working on pilot projects on participatory ground water management in M.P., Maharashtra, and Karnataka and the experiences of these pilot can be shared. JS (W) requested CGWB to include sustainability planning and drinking water security in their pilots.

Secretary DWS directed a meeting with Secretary MOWR may be set up regarding the pilot projects and convergence with the own initiatives taken by MOWR in the matter.

**Manuals and Training Materials:** Mr. Juan Costain WSP informed the Committee that WSP is helping the MDWS in preparation of the Monitoring template. WSP is also preparing a training manual on water budget exercise, and the guideline document.

Secretary, DWS desired that a document detailing various sustainability structures for the pilot blocks may be prepared and it should contain one chapter on convergence.

**Action Points:**

The following action points emerged from the discussions:

1. A meeting with Additional Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources to be set up, and MoWR involved in the discussions on Pilot projects.
2. Communication be sent to Chairman, CGWB for
  - a. Assigning Scientists for the District Core Groups

- b. Arranging trainings of 3-4 officers from each pilot block on specific topics of Sustainability structures planning and implementation, and groundwater management
3. The States to be requested for
  - a. Expediting the identification, and finalisation of appropriate Support Organisations.
  - b. Convergence with MNREGS – registering sustainability activities in the shelf of projects by 15<sup>th</sup> August 2012.
  - c. Including district level officers dealing with watershed program, K.V.K. and CGWB representative in the District Core group
  - d. Involving KVK in Drinking Water Security Pilot Projects.
4. States should be given timeline for completion of various activities and requested to adhere to them.
5. Letter to be written to the Director NRSC for
  - a. Area of interest maps for the Pilot blocks with Watershed and Village boundary layers on a higher resolution.
  - b. Requesting to arrange training of trainers on Use of HGM maps.
6. A manual on standard recharge structures along with instructions for achieving convergence with MNREGA to be prepared. A joint letter be sent to the concerned districts on convergence of MNREGA & Pilot projects.
7. A joint letter to be sent to the concerned districts on convergence of MNREGA & the Pilot projects.
8. Exposure visits and Workshop for the Support Organisations to be held in the first week of May 2012.
9. A joint letter be sent from MODWS and Ministry of Agriculture on convergence in the pilot project blocks.
10. GIS software to be prepared for monitoring the pilot projects by NIC with support from WSP if required.
11. States be requested to update the process of various activities on the software specially created on IMIS for pilot projects.

Number	Water Security Planning Block Level Activities	Timelines
<b>1</b>	<b>Pilot Launch Workshop</b>	<b>30 September 2011</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Setting up institutions</b>	
2.1	Appointment of State Level Nodal Officer	<b>31 December 2011</b>
2.2	Appointment of District level Nodal Officer	
2.3	District Core Group	
2.3.1	Formation of Group and invitation to sensitisation workshop	
2.3.2	Sensitisation workshop	
2.3.3	Orientation Workshop	<b>31 December 2011</b>
2.3.4	District Core Group Meetings	
2.4	Block Level Core Group	<b>31 December 2011</b>
2.4.1	Formation of Group and invitation to sensitisation workshop	
2.4.2	Sensitisation workshop	
2.4.3	Exposure Visit	
2.5	Support Organisation	<b>31 January 2012</b>
2.5.1	Identify potential SOs	
2.5.2	Complete ToR	
2.5.3	Advertise position	
2.5.4	Evaluate proposals	
2.5.5	Select SO and sign contract	
2.6	Village Water and Sanitation Committee	<b>30 September 2012</b>
2.6.1	Initiate VWSC	
2.6.2	Project Sensitisation	
2.7	Gram Panchyats	
2.7.1	Sensitisation workshop	
<b>3</b>	<b>Capacity Building</b>	<b>30 September 2012</b>
3.1	Orientation Workshop	<b>31 May 2012</b>
3.2	Exposure Vists	
3.2.1	Exposure Visit for Water Budgeting	<b>31 May 2012</b>
3.2.1	Formation of team to participate in visit	
3.2.1	Approval from State government	
3.2.1	Finalise dates	
3.2.1	Organisation of visit	
3.2.1	Visit	
3.2.2	Exposure Visit for Improved Service	<b>31 May 2012</b>
3.2.2	Formation of team to participate in visit	
3.2.2	Approval from State government	
3.2.2	Finalise dates	
3.2.2	Organisation of visit	
3.2.2	Visit	
3.3	Regional SO Training	<b>31 May 2012</b>
3.3.1	Prepare Training Materials	
3.3.2	Select States (Guj, TN, MP, Hary, Agra)	
3.3.3	Finalise dates and venue	
3.3.4	Organisation	
3.3.5	Training days	
3.4	Block Level Water Budget Training	<b>30 September 2012</b>
3.4.1	Prepare Training Materials	
3.4.2	Finalise dates and venue	
3.4.3	Organisation	
3.4.4	Training days	
3.5	General Support	
3.6	Periodic Reviews and Monitoring	
<b>4</b>	<b>Data Collection</b>	
4.1	Baseline data collection	<b>30 June 2012</b>
4.1.1	Current Sources	<b>30 June 2012</b>
4.1.2	Demand (current/future)	<b>30 June 2012</b>
4.1.3	Current Supply	<b>30 June 2012</b>
4.1.4	System map	<b>30 June 2012</b>
4.1.5	Geo-Hydrology	<b>30 June 2012</b>
4.1.6	Hydrology	<b>30 June 2012</b>
4.1.7	Preparation of Village Level Atlas	<b>30 June 2012</b>
4.2	Implementation data collection	<b>31 March 2012</b>
4.2.1	New raingauges	<b>31 March 2012</b>
4.2.2	New boreholes	<b>31 March 2012</b>
4.2.3	Establish data flow	<b>31 March 2012</b>

		<b>Timelines</b>
<b>Number</b>	<b>Water Security Planning Block Level Activities</b>	<b>31 March 2012</b>
4.2.4	Create templates	<b>31 March 2012</b>
4.2.5	Develop GIS database with web interface	<b>30 September 2013</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Implementation</b>	
5.1	Identify villages for Phase 1 implementation	
5.2	Analysis to identify issues	
5.2.1	Village Level Water Balance	
5.2.2	Identification of Issues	
5.2.3	Identification of measures	
5.2.4	Report Preparation and Endorsement	
5.3	Implementation of Measures Identified	
5.3.1	Planning	
5.3.2	Design	
5.3.3	Construction	